

FBIS

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MATVEYEV HITS WEST'S STANCE ON ARMS TALKS, CHERNOBYL

PM051619 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 May 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Political Observer V. Matveyev article under the "Notes Apropos" rubric: "Decency Is Not Their Rule"]

[Text] Official circles in Washington and London, which are to blame for the fact that the question of the complete cessation of nuclear weapon tests is not being resolved, are these days acting in the unseemly role of instigators of an anti-Soviet ballyhoo in connection with the accident at the Chernobyl AES [Atomic Power Station]. This is no mere coincidence. At the very time when, to a propaganda fanfare, Washington was announcing the President's decision to set up a special group to "study the incident at the Soviet AES," it became known that a device had malfunctioned during the underground detonation of a U.S. nuclear weapon in Nevada on 10 April. The radiation had gotten out of control. British nuclear weapons are also detonated there.

Our country has confirmed its readiness to return at any moment to a joint moratorium with the United States with the provision that the latter does not conduct nuclear tests. Even now, after an 8-month break in nuclear tests in our country, the Soviet Government is in no hurry to resume tests, despite what is happening in Nevada.

Technical progress in the peaceful, civil sphere is not always smooth or even. All incidents along that path serve as a lesson to enable them to be avoided in the future. Mankind has mastered the most complex processes on this path and is undoubtedly capable of also ensuring the safe development of peaceful atomic energy for people's good.

This is what has to be worked at, and not only on the national scale but also on the broad international plane by the collective efforts of states and governments.

But is that also the aim guiding the aforementioned circles in the West?

"We are stepping up the pressure"... That, according to a WASHINGTON POST report on 3 May, is how a White House staffer characterized U.S. official circles' approach to what happened at the Chernobyl AES.

Pressure, coercion, and strong-arm methods... People remain true to form in the centers of power across the ocean. What kind of decency or norms or morality can there be with people who have on their conscience the course of "improving" an already monstrous weapon, which they continue to test contrary to the world community's demands! The "pressure" which the aforementioned White House staffer spoke of is yet another fact demonstrating the ease and cynicism with which official Washington resorts to the methods of "psychological warfare." They claim that they lack "information" even though they must be aware that it takes a certain amount of time [neobkhotimo khotya by minimalnoye vremya] to clarify the facts of what happened. They claim that they are trying to "give assistance" but in fact they are whipping up sentiments hostile to the USSR.

Nor does the conduct of the British Government, which ostentatiously recalled a group of tourists and students from the Soviet Union, look any better. If official London is really so concerned it should turn its gaze toward Nevada and to Las Vegas, which is just a few dozen kilometers from the site of the U.S. nuclear explosions! There can be no doubt that the world public will draw the appropriate conclusions from this unseemly campaign launched by those who would like to make political gain of the most disgraceful kind, since it is a question here of aims and schemes that have nothing to do with concern for the fate of our planet. Such actions, such tactics deserve nothing more than the most resolute castigation.

SDI JEOPARDIZES MANKIND'S 'VERY EXISTENCE'

LD051547 Moscow TASS in English 1523 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 5 TASS -- By TASS military writer Vladimir Chernyshov:

Trying to reassure the world public concerned over work in the USA on the "star wars" programme, representatives of the U.S. Administration resorted to a thesis that the implementation of the programme is to be completed decades from now and that, allegedly, there are no reasons for anxiety now. In reality, Washington's "star wars" adventure, is Washington persists with it, will result in serious consequences in near future. This is the danger that threatens not our great-grandchildren but ourselves, all of us, entire humanity.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defence Richard Perle, speaking in Washington on May 2, confirmed again that there are absolutely no changes in the stand of the U.S. Administration on the "Strategic Defence Initiative." It follows from his pronouncements that the United States will continue the work on the "star wars" programme and has no intention of making it the subject of any talks on arms control.

Moreover, Washington stubbornly speeds up the work to create space strike arms. According to a statement of director of the SDI programme, Lieutenant-General James Abrahamson, the rate of work achieved now will enable the USA to deploy early in the 90's "first generation space arms" including orbital combat stations.

Space systems of the second generation, including laser weapons, will be deployed later and then the third generation of weapons including nuclear-pumped x-ray lasers will be deployed. "THE WASHINGTON POST" newspaper admitted that the new scenario of the implementation of the "star wars" programme now advanced by the Pentagon's Strategic Defence Initiative organization presupposes that at each stage of the deployment of space strike arms the USA will be "one step ahead of the Russians".

The threat of near-earth space being inundated with U.S. weapons is, consequently, not far off. It will become a reality in several years' time. Another fact deserves to be mentioned. In the joint state adopted by the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Geneva, the leaders of the USSR and the USA declared that they will not seek to achieve military superiority. Then how can this pledge adopted by the President of the USA go together with the Pentagon's present demand "to be always one step ahead"? Apparently, this situation is precisely the U.S. notion of "equality".

By starting stage-by-stage militarisation of outer space in the years ahead and relying on the mythical "technological superiority" of the USA, certain persons in Washington clearly hope to tip the military-strategic balance in their favour and to create the possibility of staging nuclear aggression with impunity or of threatening with such an aggression.

Such calculations are surely prospectless. The Soviet Union will not allow anyone to outstrip it in the military-strategic field. It will take all appropriate counter-measures. But as a result of this policy of the U.S. Administration, the USSR and the USA, their allies, the whole world will land in near future in the situation of an absolutely uncontrolled arms race, of strategic chaos, the most dangerous undermining of stability, universal uncertainty and fear and the resulting heightening of the risk of catastrophe.

Those who push the United States to the road of "star wars" assume great responsibility not only to the American people but also to the nations of the whole world, jeopardise mankind's very existence.

U.S. DEVELOPMENT OF 'STAR WARS' COMPONENTS SCORED

PMO21637 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 May 86 Second Edition p 3

[Colonel I. Ignatyev article: "Illusory Schemes of 'Star Wars' Champions"]

[Text] The U.S. Defense Department and NASA have announced their intention to try to secure the allocation of funds to build a replacement for the defunct Challenger -- a new manned spacecraft of similar type. As is known, it is precisely with craft of the shuttle series that the U.S. Administration, to a considerable degree, links its plans for a technological leap into space by deploying strike arms there and turning it into a new theater of military operations. According to a statement by Air Force Secretary E. Aldridge, the Pentagon will in the very near future need to carry out no less than four to six shuttle flights every year. It is now thought that launches of the remaining three spacecraft (Columbia, Discovery, and Atlantis) could be resumed in 1987, while it will take 4 years to build a new craft at a total cost of approximately \$3 billion.

At the same time, work on creating [sozdaniye] a second generation of manned spacecraft is being stepped up in U.S. military laboratories. According to AVIATION WEEK magazine, a plan for the X-30 manned aerospace craft weighing approximately 450 metric tons, that would be capable of taking off independently, flying at tremendous speed at heights of 30-150 km, and landing at military airfields, has now been advanced to the fore. If such an aircraft were equipped with missiles; an electromagnetic gun; or a laser weapon, it could be used for espionage, for making strikes against ground, air, and space targets, and also for putting ABM system components into orbit.

It is thought that X-30 test flights could begin in the nineties, so as to add it to the arsenal at the beginning of the next century. U.S. General (S. Trimeyn), who is responsible for developing [razrabotka] this project, has called it "a totally invulnerable means capable of quickly delivering weapons to any point on the globe." Nobody conceals the anti-Soviet thrust of the project, which has been officially named "Orient Express." The United States is stepping up preparations to implement the "star wars" program. The U.S. nuclear missile arsenal is continuing to be modernized and large-scale military programs are being implemented, including within the framework of the so-called "Strategic Defense Initiative." The nuclear explosions conducted by the United States in April were perceived everywhere as an open challenge not only to the Soviet Union but also to the people of all continents and to the world as a whole.

At the same time, Washington is making more and more attempts to draw the allies into a very dangerous space adventure. As already reported, Britain, the FRG, and Italy have joined in. The White House is reckoning on concluding corresponding agreements also with Japan and Israel.

For propaganda purposes, Pentagon and State Department emissaries are doing their best to advertise the "considerable progress" supposedly made in developing [razrabotka] space-strike means in laboratories and on ranges, where work is "in full swing." On the whole, the actual facts attest that Washington has not abandoned its attempts to extend its policy of brute force into space. Its chief purpose is to attempt to achieve the unachievable -- strategic superiority over the USSR -- this time by militarizing space.

At the same time, it should be borne in mind that the massive propaganda and the shameless speculation in slanderous fabrications about the "Soviet military threat" and "the Russians' overwhelming superiority" in space, that have been going on year after year, have yielded their own poisoned fruits, as it were. For politically inexperienced ordinary Americans the President's "Strategic Defense Initiative" has become, as pointed out in the press, an "almost religious concept," while the Shuttle flights have become the embodiment of the "American dream."

In the interests of the military-industrial complex, the policy of militarizing space is presented by propaganda as the compulsory long-term conduct for all future U.S. Presidents. And flawed logic, according to which the path to nuclear disarmament goes by way of space arms, has been put into circulation to justify this policy. Thus, K. Adelman, director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, has gone so far as to claim that the SDI program naturally "complements the disarmament process." Absurd? Undoubtedly! But the minds of millions of Americans are being poisoned with such absurdities every day and every hour.

Official White House statements are full of declarations to the effect that the administration is "conscientiously studying" the possibility of banning antisatellite weapons, "takes a serious approach" to the problem of talks on limiting nuclear and space arms, and intends to strive for peace "founded on defensive systems." However, it is not the prevention of the militarization of space that is proclaimed the purpose of the talks but the protection of U.S. military interests in space and the adoption of some kind of "traffic regulations" in space. At the same time, the Pentagon's multibillion-dollar space budget is being drawn up, all information on military space activity is being suppressed, undisguised irritation is being expressed at the attempts of Congress to ban tests of the ASAT antisatellite system against targets in space, and so forth.

The peace-loving people and governments of many countries reject the foolhardy policy of shifting the arms race into space. They are opposed to all attempts to carry out the military colonization of space and to deploy strike arms there.

The deaths of seven American astronauts before the eyes of all mankind confirmed the worst fears of specialists: According to all the laws of technical reliability, a space ABM system immeasurably more complex than Challenger could get out of control, spontaneously bring mankind to a fatal point, and initiate a nuclear catastrophe.

This is why even science fiction writers deny such a system the right to exist. "Star wars will require far more complex computers than we yet possess," the American writer I. Asimov, a well-known representative of that genre, said. "We will only be able to test them under actual war conditions. And what if they do not work? Then not seven people, but all mankind that perishes." The conviction is strengthening in broad world public circles that the opening of the "star wars" front conceived by Washington is a profoundly fraudulent and extremely dangerous venture. Its real purpose is to secure one-sided U.S. advantages to the detriment of the security of the Soviet Union, its allies, and all countries that refuse to obey the American diktat.

The 27th CPSU Congress confirmed very definitely the USSR's principled position, which provides for both sides to reject the creation [sozdaniye], testing, and deployment of space arms. The Soviet Union has also declared that, in the event of the U.S. Administration continuing the pernicious "star wars" policy, it will take all necessary measures to ensure its own security and that of its allies. There will be no military superiority for American militarism.

U.S. DISTORTS FACTS ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS ISSUE

PM021357 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 May 86 Second Edition p 3

[O. Georgiyev article under the rubric "Rebuff to Slanderers": "Another 'Canard'"]

[Text] Another newspaper "canard" has flown out of Washington. Barry (Shved), AP's correspondent there, has reported that a few days ago some White House official imparted an astounding piece of news to representatives of the press in Washington.

It turns out that, according to CIA data, "in the Soviet Union, the chemical weapon production capacity of a major installation situated on the Volga has increased 200 percent." Simultaneously there was also a report on a "trebling of the production areas earmarked for carrying out tests and research work on the creation [sozdaniye] of chemical weapons on a test site close to that installation." As is customary, no proof was given and a reference was made to the secrecy of all the data that the CIA has managed to "gather." On the basis of this very "extensive" information (Shved) draws this conclusion (in fact prompted by an administration spokesman): The USSR is preparing for chemical war, while the United States is lagging far behind in this sphere. Therefore it is necessary to embark urgently, before it is too late, on the production of a new generation of chemical weapons -- binary weapons -- and, of course, deploy them in Europe, close to the borders of Warsaw Pact states.

The purpose of this and other similar falsehoods is obvious: to create a propaganda background to justify the production of a new generation of U.S. chemical weapons -- binary weapons. But all these mountains of lies have nothing to do with the true state of affairs.

The truth is that the Soviet Union has never prepared for chemical war and has done everything in its power to ensure that such a war is not unleashed. The USSR has never used such weapons itself or passed them to other states. Throughout recent years it has been trying to persuade the United States to cease on a reciprocal basis the development [razrabotka] and production of chemical weapons, to ban them altogether as quickly as possible, and to begin destroying all the stockpiles, as well as the industrial base for their manufacture.

As is known, the Geneva Conference on Disarmament is continuing to draw up a convention on banning the development [razrabotka], production, and stockpiling of chemical weapons and on destroying them. To activate those negotiations, the Soviet Union is taking all measures to remove the last obstacles (according to American concepts, the chief stumbling block was verification [kontrol] on that path. As the 15 January statement of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, pointed out, the USSR is prepared for any form of verification [kontrol], even the most strict and comprehensive, including international on-site inspections [proverki]. The main point is that this verification [kontrol] solve the chief task of eliminating one of the most terrible types of mass destruction weapons on the earth -- chemical weapons. Moreover, seeking to accelerate the conclusion of a corresponding agreement, on 22 April the USSR submitted to the Geneva Conference on Disarmament new proposals that make it possible to remove the differences of opinion that still exist.

But instead of drawing up a convention earnestly and purposefully, Washington has once again started an anti-Soviet orgy. Falsehoods have been propagated, and long forgotten, previously exposed myths about the use of "Soviet chemical weapons," including in Southeast Asia, are being dragged out into the light. "Researchers" have even been found who, more than 5 years after some sort of samples were taken out of Thailand, have been able to detect "Soviet mycotoxins" on them.

The reason for this anti-Soviet psychological offensive is well known. U.S. reactionary circles in no way want to permit an easing of the international situation.

ARTICLE DENOUNCES U.S. NUCLEAR MUNITIONS PROGRAM

PM280834 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Apr 86 Second Edition p 3

[F. Andreyev article under the rubric "The Facts Exposed": "In Pursuit of Superiority"]

[Text] Having issued an impudent challenge to the peoples, on 22 April, Washington conducted its latest nuclear weapon test -- the 3d this year and the 10th since August of last year. The United States thus demonstrated its commitment to a policy of whipping up the nuclear arms race and attaining military superiority over the USSR.

The Department of Energy implements the development [razrabotka], testing, and production of nuclear ammunition [boyepripas] for all three branches of the U.S. Armed Forces. THE WASHINGTON POST wrote recently: "Department of Energy budget documents make it clear that the Reagan administration, which is already financing the largest U.S. program of nuclear weapons production in the last 20 years, is aiming for the appropriation of additional sums to expand production capacities for the manufacture of nuclear ammunition, ensuring its production in even larger quantities." Moreover, it is envisaged that the construction of new enterprises for the U.S. nuclear industry complex and the modernization of existing ones "must be completed in the early nineties." It is also planned to create a new research base and expand the existing one so as to study problems connected with the utilization of nuclear explosion energy within the framework of the "star wars" program. Specifically, it is planned to build a new laboratory to conduct experiments with X-ray lasers and particle beam weapons at the "Sandia" Scientific Research Center in Albuquerque (New Mexico).

The implementation of the set plans, according to the Pentagon's calculations, will make it possible to build up the U.S. nuclear arsenal to 20,000 strategic charges [zaryad] by the end of this decade, in other words to boost it by almost 50 percent. Despite the fact that the total U.S. nuclear arsenal already contains over 30,000 units of nuclear ammunition (whose total capacity is equivalent to almost 1 million atom bombs similar to the ones the Americans dropped on Japanese cities in 1945), the Pentagon is planning to manufacture an additional 17,000 new nuclear charges in the early nineties. According to the U.S. press, up to 10 new units of ammunition for various purposes come into service every day.

The following are currently at the stage of series production: nose cones for MX ICBM's, each one fitted with 10 warheads with a capacity of up to 600 kilotons, and for Trident-1 nuclear submarine ballistic missiles (8 warheads of 100-150 kilotons each); nuclear payload sections [boyevaya chast] for ground, air, and sea launched cruise missiles; new aviation bombs with a capacity of up to several megatons for the strategic air force, and up to several hundred kilotons for the tactical air force; nose cones for Pershing-2 medium-range ballistic missiles (with a capacity of up to 80 kilotons); and 203.2-mm nuclear artillery shells.

Capacities for the processing of tritium, uranium-235, and plutonium are being built up to ensure the expanded production of new nuclear ammunition in the United States. The assimilation of the laser method for separating uranium and plutonium isotopes is at its final stage and this will make it possible to significantly increase the output of fissionable materials.

It is a noteworthy fact that next year the U.S. Department of Energy plans to spend twice as much as this year on the development [razrabotka] of nuclear charge devices [yadernoye zaryadnoye ustroystvo] for strike space weapons, including for pumped X-ray lasers, and guided ammunition. The U.S. Administration's desire to complete, come what may, the development [razrabotka] of "third generation" weapons under the "star wars" program is one of the main reasons behind its unwillingness to abandon nuclear tests.

The measures being implemented in the United States to expand the production of new nuclear ammunition provide a straightforward refutation of the administration's claims that the implementation of the "star wars" program would supposedly render nuclear weapons unnecessary and useless. In actual fact, the Reagan administration is pursuing the following goal: In parallel with the further buildup of the combat potential of the existing components of the strategic "triad," to create [sozdat] a new, fourth component of strategic offensive forces -- space-strike weapons. This is where the U.S. Administration's words that it does not pursue military superiority over the USSR differ from its practical deeds.

FURTHER COMMENTARY ON TOKYO ECONOMIC SUMMIT

Declaration on Terrorism Criticized

LD051706 Moscow TASS in English 1707 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 5 TASS — By TASS Political Analyst Askold Biryukov,

The first remarks by American Administration officials in Tokyo, the venue of a summit of seven main capitalist countries, have left no doubt that Washington is going to use the meeting for sweeping its partners into its "neo-globalist" policy, including joint punitive operations against the Libyan Jamahiriya and other nations whose policy displeases the United States.

According to the Japanese and Western mass media, the American Administration took advantage of the clamour raised around the problem of terrorism and the accident at the Soviet atomic power plant to divert the debate in Tokyo away from the vital problems of ensuring peace and achieving disarmament since it clearly had nothing to offer in response to the Soviet Union's concrete programme of eliminating nuclear and other weapons of mass annihilation by the turn of the century.

The clamour, as well as the arms twisting carried out by the administration officials enabled Washington, with London's active assistance, to issue tonight the earlier prepared statement on terrorism.

Japan's Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe acknowledged at a press conference in Tokyo that differences of opinion emerged during the debate on the issue.

According to the ABC television network, President Reagan's chief objective was to enlist the summiteers' consent to concerted struggle against terrorism. Another television company, the NBC, said that the meeting's participants agreed that it was necessary to fight terrorism, although deep differences remained on what they were prepared to undertake.

The Japanese newspaper ASAHI reported that the French president and the chairman of Italy's Council of Ministers rejected Washington's and London's proposals for adopting concrete punitive sanctions against Libya. Francois Mitterrand and Bettino Craxi emphasised that they opposed "inflating" the problem of "terrorism" and demanded that each country participating in the Tokyo meeting be allowed to adopt independent decisions on the issue. West German Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl, during a conversation with President Reagan, ignored Washington's calls for "sanctions" against Libya.

Even Abe, explaining Japan's inclination to side with the United States in its conflict with Libya, said that this did not affect the Japanese policy of sympathy with the Arab world due to the country's great dependence on oil imported from the Middle East.

Judging by the statement adopted in Tokyo, Washington failed this time to make its partners fully back its dangerous policy of "neo-globalism". It is clear that there is now more understanding in the Western European countries about the true causes of terrorism and what is required to eradicate it.

The Italian president, Francesco Cossiga, made it clear in his interview with the newspaper STAMPA that the solution of the problem of terrorism was unthinkable without eliminating the causes that generated it, including the Palestinian question which remained unresolved.

Naturally, one could hardly expect that in discussing the problem of terrorism, the seven would make a proper assessment of Washington's state-sponsored terrorism which is practised worldwide -- from Libya and Lebanon to Grenada and Nicaragua.

"Western solidarity" did not allow the partners to raise above their class interests. But having condemned Libya and failing to condemn the United States, they in fact sided with the imperialist policy of Washington and gave it the green light for new acts of state terrorism against other nations.

Talk of Terrorism Masks Disunity

OW051307 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1045 GMT 5 May 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Ilyashenko]

[Text] The conference of leaders of seven leading capitalist states is in its 2d day in Tokyo. On the eve of the meeting of seven, political observers forecast that the discussions in Tokyo will be not so much about economic problems as about the knocking together of a united Western political front by Washington.

The United States, wrote the FINANCIAL TIMES, will try to get the allies to agree to more determined pressure on Libya, and the Europeans will focus attention on the measures already taken. They will refuse to apply economic sanctions against Tripoli. Differences are expected on the economic front despite the fact that the leaders of the seven will try to appear united, at least in public, concludes the FINANCIAL TIMES.

This scenario of the Tokyo meeting is largely correct. The heads of government lavish smiles for the television cameras, despite the fact that the conference is taking place in a strained atmosphere. [Video shows Kohl, Thatcher, Nakasone, Reagan and other leaders smiling]

The tension is felt both at the conference table and behind the walls of the private palace residence where the meeting is taking place. Japanese terrorists have fired mortars at the conference building. True, they have not achieved their aim, yet they have given considerable worry both to the police and the conference participants. [Video show palace building, distant shots of smoke rising over a distant building, police in the street, and mortars in a window]

Japanese leftists played into the hands of the Washington administration, which is counting on using the meeting to totally mobilize the West against international terrorism. How can we discuss urgent economic problems, say U.S. politicians to their allies, when bombs are exploding under our very noses? There is no need for discussions but there is a need to create a united Western front against Libya, Syria, and other states.

It is astonishing, says the newspaper L'HUMANITE, that under tense international conditions, the leaders of the seven countries prefer to talk about international terrorism, leaving aside really important problems like the plan to eliminate nuclear arms proposed by the Soviet Union. Talking profusely about terrorism, the United States is trying to avoid replying to other Soviet peace initiatives.

Because of strong differences, conference participants failed to adopt today their planned joint statement on so-called international terrorism. This was reported at a press conference by Japanese Foreign Minister Abe. The French Newspaper LIBERATION says the conference is a grandiose show in which each of the acting personalities is trying to play his role in the best possible manner and place his partners in an uncomfortable position.

Declaration on Nuclear Energy Censured

LD051652 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1459 GMT 5 May 86

["They Are Increasing the Political Radiation" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 5 May (TASS) -- TASS Political Observer Aleksey Grigoryev writes:

Nuclear energy is and remains a source which will find increasingly wider application... [TASS ellipsis] The observance of safety norms is an international obligation for every country, and every country which uses nuclear energy bears full responsibility for safety in the design, construction, and operation of its facilities... [TASS ellipsis] Every country bears responsibility for the immediate supply of detailed and full information in cases of emergency and accidents at nuclear facilities... [TASS ellipsis] These provisions are contained in a statement adopted at the conference of leaders of the seven major capitalist countries which is taking place in Tokyo.

Of themselves, such tenets of the above-cited document are obvious, just as the fact that the rapid progress of science and technology brings not only successes, but also victims -- material and human ones -- is obvious. Neither the study of space nor nuclear power engineering turn out to be without heavy losses for mankind. Recent examples of this were the tragedy of the Challenger shuttle [raketoplan] and the misfortune [beda] which occurred at the Chernobyl AES [Atomic Power Station] in the Soviet Union. The accident [avariya] at this station was indeed seen as a misfortune [neschastye] which affected people by a number of foreign states, various organizations, private companies, and individual citizens abroad who expressed their sympathy in connection with what happened and offered their help. The Soviet Government expressed its sincere gratitude for this.

But it turns out that the first nuclear power station accident in the history of Soviet nuclear power engineering can be used to contaminate the international atmosphere with political radioactivity, to attempt to blackmail the Soviet Union, and to blacken socialism, its science, and its policy. This is precisely how high-ranking persons in Washington and some West European capitals have acted, with whose sanction today an unprecedented propaganda hysteria has been unleashed, using reports of "thousands of dead," of "Soviet experts' inability to localize the source of radioactive contamination," of "mass flight of foreign citizens from the USSR," etc.

The U.S. CBS television network rightly noted in a report from Tokyo that "the incident at Chernobyl nuclear power station is regarded as a plus for the Reagan administration." Sweeping aside their most acute economic problems, pretending that such major problems proposed for discussion in the international arena by the Soviet Union as halting any nuclear tests, banning chemical weapons, and reducing conventional weapons, do not exist, the participants in the Tokyo meeting devoted many hours to the compilation of a document which must obviously prompt anti-Soviet speculation, accusations, and lies.

The meeting of the "seven" is being held for the 12th time. It is the first time that such a document has been adopted at the meeting. The question is being asked: Was there previously no cause for concern at the fact that even the peaceful atom may, in certain circumstances, go out of control? The answer is simple: There has been cause, and many times, but then it was a matter of happenings at nuclear power stations in the United States and other capitalist countries. Meanwhile, as is clear from the report prepared by the American public organization "Public Citizen" [as received], since 1979 there have been up to 20,000 various malfunctions at U.S. nuclear power stations.

Essentially, as is noted in the report, dangerous incidents occur at U.S. nuclear power stations virtually every day, and the incident at the "Three Mile Island" nuclear power station not far from Harrisburg (Pennsylvania State), where a partial meltdown of the protective layer of the nuclear reactor led to particularly grave consequences.

According to UPI reports, apart from President Reagan, British Prime Minister Thatcher also insisted on especially harsh phraseology addressed the Soviet Union when drawing up the aforementioned statement. She had clearly forgotten that only a little more than a month ago, radioactive gas was released at the Dungeness nuclear power station (in the County of Kent). Luckily there were no casualties, but it is worth noting however, that the British Central Electricity Generating Board initially preferred to shroud this incident in a veil of silence. The head of the British Government must also know that over 25 years ago, at the Sellafield nuclear fuel reprocessing plant, 13 people died and 200 were infected with radiation sickness as a result of a catastrophe.

In recalling these facts (and there are many more), there is not secret thought that "you also have accidents." Our country has never exulted at another's calamity, and has never tried to gain political capital from the misfortunes of others. Recalling the facts is another example of the sense of responsibility which the USSR feels for the fate of the world and the security of people.

The struggle to master the forces of nature, including nuclear energy, remains a task common to all mankind, and thus the extraordinary events in the field of the peaceful use of the atom's energy which have taken place and which, maybe, may yet take place, are not a cause for political speculation. The Tokyo declaration, unfortunately, is an example of the reverse. An end to nuclear tests, which increase with sinister continuity the radioactive contamination of the planet (evidence of which are the effects of the nuclear blast on 10 April in the State of Nevada), is a task which is common to all mankind. The USSR, by word and by deed, appeals to the United States for an end to these blasts and for a total elimination of nuclear weapons on the earth, but Washington's reaction to all this remains negative. The Tokyo declaration, unfortunately, does not give grounds for optimism. Indeed, the saturation of the international atmosphere with political radioactivity is no less dangerous than a leak of radioactivity at facilities which use nuclear energy.

Moscow TV Terms Summit 'Egotistical'

OW060521 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0200 GMT 6 May 86

[From the "Novosti" newscast; Lutsenko commentary]

[Text] A meeting of the leaders of the seven leading capitalist countries is taking place in Tokyo.

[Lutsenko] Hello comrades. For the first time, a meeting of the big seven is taking place in the Far East. This unambiguously shows the desire to promote the role of Japan and the whole of the Asian and Pacific region in the international relations arena. If one translates this into the language of practical politics, we are speaking about the creation of yet another front in the fight against the USSR, this time in Asia and the Pacific.

In the recent statement by the Soviet Government regarding the problems of the Pacific region, the USSR warned the developed capitalist countries, particularly the United States and Japan, against actions which could lead to the strengthening of tensions in this region of the world. At the same time, the Soviet Union put forward practical proposals to make the situation in the region healthier. Farsighted political activists cannot ignore this.

The USSR spoke out for decreasing naval fleets on the Pacific Ocean, welcomed the creation of nuclear-free zones in the region, proposed the creation of preconditions for holding an all-Asia forum, as well as to prepare for and hold a separate conference with countries in the Pacific Basin and to examine questions of security, including economic questions. The Soviet Union declared its readiness to immediately begin a broad exchange of views with all the interested parties, and to create multilateral cooperation, profitable to all.

However, the order of the day at the Tokyo summit is dictated by the narrow, egotistical goals of the participants. There is not even a hint of a positive approach to the most pressing problems of the region. Here, the talks will be centered on trade and the economic antagonism between the centers of contemporary imperialism, on how to force the developing countries to pay their debts and accrued interest, and finally on the creation of a Far East NATO flank. Sadly, at the meeting of leaders of the leading capitalist countries, judging by its order of the day, other than for purely mercenary interests there will be no place for discussing the problems of liquidation of nuclear weapons, the fight against hunger and illiteracy, or the development of cooperation and the strengthening of trust. These are the problems which require a high degree of political responsibility and on which the future of human civilization truly depends.

Summit Held Amid 'Sharp Conflicts'

LD052221 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1213 GMT 5 May 86

[Correspondent Vasilii Golovnin report]

[Text] Tokyo, 5 May (TASS) -- Because of sharp conflicts, the participants here in the conference of the leaders of the seven leading capitalist countries could not adopt today the planned joint statement on the so-called "problem of international terrorism" which Washington is trying to make use of to drag its partners into punitive measures against Libya and other states which are not to the liking of the United States. This has been acknowledged at a press conference here by Shintaro Abe, minister of foreign affairs of Japan. He stated that between the participants "differences of opinion" come to light that they will try to regulate in the course of the subsequent discussion.

During sharp discussions, the newspaper ASAHI report, French President Francois Mitterrand and Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi rejected Washington's and London's proposal on taking precise punitive sanctions against Libya, including expulsion of its diplomats and reduction of oil purchases from that country. F. Mitterrand and B. Craxi stressed that they came out against "exaggeration" of the notorious problem of "terrorism" and demand that each country participating in the Tokyo meeting be given the right to make independent decisions on this question. FRG Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl, in the course of his separate conversation yesterday with U.S. President Ronald Reagan, also ignored Washington's calls for taking "sanctions" against Libya.

Because of differences, the Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs S. Abe reported, the participants in the conference could not yet adopt the planned statement on nuclear energy either, in which the United States with London's support is trying to include clauses containing slanderous attacks against the USSR in connection with the accident at the Chernobyl AES. At present, Washington is exerting mighty pressure on the other participants in the meeting, aspiring to make them confirm these documents in accordance with the scenario adopted on the other side of the ocean.

In this atmosphere of sharp conflicts, at the meeting of the "seven" only the "Tokyo statement" on political questions has been confirmed out of the three official statements planned for today.

It points to the aspiration of the participants for "more stable and constructive relations between East and West," as well as for "balanced, substantial and controlled reductions in the level of armaments and for measures for an increase in trust and a decrease in the risk of conflicts." At the same time attention is drawn to the fact that the "statement" does not contain any precise answer to the complex of Soviet peace initiatives aimed at elimination of nuclear armaments and prevention of war, which has evoked broad response on the planet.

U.S. 'Arm-Twisting' Noted

LD051946 Moscow TASS in English 1832 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] Tokyo May 5 TASS -- An annual meeting of the leaders of seven major capitalist nations -- Britain, Italy, Canada, FRG, France, USA and Japan, as well as of representatives of the Common Market is held here in the atmosphere of Washington's gross pressure on the allies. Though the meeting was convened to discuss acute commercial and economic problems of the West, the main attention at the meeting, at the demand of the U.S. delegation, was paid to political matters. The evidence of this are the "Tokyo Declaration" and a number of other political documents adopted by the participants in the meeting today. The declaration couched in abstract expressions does not contain concrete proposals as regards the search for the ways of easing tension in troubled areas of the globe, of consolidating international security. The declaration does not give a constructive answer either to the complex of the Soviet initiatives aimed at the elimination of nuclear arms, at the creation of an all-embracing system of international security.

The U.S. Administration that legalized the practice of state terrorism with regard to other countries imposed on the participants in the meeting of the seven the discussion of the problem of "terrorism" under whose pretext the United States is striving to involve the allies in aggressive actions against countries and governments that cause Washington's annoyance. With a recourse to the favourite tactic of arm-twisting, the United States has achieved the adoption of a statement on so-called "international terrorism" that contains slanderous allegations against Libya. It envisages a wide range of "sanctions" including restrictions on the issuing of visas and exchange of people and closure of diplomatic representations which might be applied to virtually any country that causes Washington's annoyance and is accused without adducing proof of "connivance at the terrorists".

At the same time, going by the contents of the statement, most of the participants in the meeting rejected the demand of President Reagan and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher who supported him, to justify the barbarous attack of U.S. aviation on Libya and refused to take economic sanctions against that country.

Sanctions Against Libya Scored

LD050138 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 4 May 86

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Fedor Burlatskiy]

[Text] At the meeting of the seven leading capitalist states which opens today in Tokyo, apart from the traditional economic issues, at the initiative of the United States, of course, the issue of joint sanctions by the seven with respect to Libya, which they accuse of almost all terrorist acts which have taken place in Europe and beyond its borders, will be discussed.

Is it really necessary to speak of our attitude toward terrorism. We are the unconditional, absolute enemies of terrorist acts even when they are acts of despair, of people driven to extremes by cruel unjust actions. How ought one to react to these acts? This is an important problem which should be weighed both from the point of view of morality and from the point of view of practical effectiveness, and, of course, this problem should be resolved in strict accord with national laws and with international law.

An elementary norm of law in any country has it that no one can be the judge and also the executor in his own affairs. Responsibility for acts of terrorism should be borne by those who specifically carry them out and the organizers. What would happen it, by arbitrary choice, populations, towns, people were destroyed for such acts? At present the link with terrorists has not been proved in any court. Chaos, bacchanalia, terrorism inside out, the escalation of murders without discrimination as (?once) described in the Old Testament: an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth.

Let us consider for a moment why the United States or the countries of Western Europe do not consider it necessary to take revenge on anyone for the murder of Palem? What is the problem here? Is it that he was not an American but a Swede? Or that he was a progressive politician? Or that his murderer is evidently not of the left but of the rightist camp? That is where it is necessary to look for the reply to the question of so-called sanctions against Libya. In essence it is a question of attempts to start some kind of new round of North-South relations among industrial centers of capitalist power and countries of the developing world.

The United States almost certainly counted on a strike against Libya at the same time meeting with a response in all the developing world, not only in the Near East, but in Central America, Angola, Mozambique, Yemen, Iran, and in other countries of the Persian Gulf. Will the countries of the West get what they are after? Will they be able to frighten the developing world? I am absolutely certain, they will not be able to. The only way to overcome conflicts which arise is by way of talks and multilateral consultations. It is necessary to finally understand that everything which is happening in the developing world, including such countries as Libya and Nicaragua, is the direct result of the entire colonial history of these countries, of their difficult development both in the past and in the present, and of their struggle for a new future.

U.S. To 'Take Advantage' of Partners

LD040847 Moscow TASS in English 0820 GMT 4 May 86

["By TASS Correspondent Vasilii Golovnin" -- TASS byline]

[Text] Tokyo May 4 TASS -- The leaders of seven leading capitalist countries, including Britain, Italy, Canada, West Germany, France, the United States and Japan, today opened a summit conference in the Tokyo Akasaka Palace which is fenced off by thousands of policemen.

The agenda includes the sharp problems of trade and economic contradictions between the participating nations and international issues. But the very first statements by U.S. President Ronald Reagan here have indicated that Washington intends to take advantage of the Tokyo meeting to harness its partners to further its aggressive neoglobalist strategy, including joint punitive actions against Libya and other countries disliked by the United States.

By fuelling an uproar over the notorious "terrorism problem", the U.S. Administration, according to the newspaper NIHON KEIZAI, is going to lead the debates at the conference away from the fundamental issues of ensuring peace because it has clearly nothing to say in response to a widely-acclaimed Soviet program for eliminating nuclear weapons and preventing war.

Many attendees at the seven-nation meeting are wary of these U.S. plans.

During his preliminary conversation with Reagan here yesterday Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi, for example, turned down a U.S. demand for cuts in oil purchases in Libya as a "sanction" against that sovereign country.

Speaking in an interview with the Japanese newspaper YOMIURI, President Francois Mitterrand of France, for his part, rejected Washington's proposal for "quick joint action" against countries displeasing the United States.

"We do not want France to be drawn, under the pretext of fighting terrorism, into international action which it could not consider freely in advance," he stressed.

It is "without enthusiasm," the newspaper MAINICHI reported, that Japan and West European countries look also at a U.S. plan for setting up a "common fund for the Middle East", which would mean for these countries shouldering the burden of funding Washington's policy in the region.

The participants in the Tokyo meeting are also divided by chronic disagreements and frictions in the economic field. Tokyo has found itself in total isolation after the United States and the Common Market countries refused to help Japan reduce the sharply increased exchange rate of the yen, which undercuts the competitiveness of Japanese goods.

France has said, for its part, that it is going to block a proposal by Tokyo and Washington to hold multilateral trade talks on lowering customs duties on farm produce.

The contradictions in the triangle formed by the United States, Japan and Western Europe are on the whole so complicated, in the opinion of the local press, that they actually exclude the possibility of reaching a concrete accord.

Summit Will Elevate Japan's Role

LD031940 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 3 May 86

[Nikolay Lutsenko commentary]

[Text] The range of issues which face the participants in the Tokyo summit is extraordinarily broad. However, this is what one would like to focus attention on:

Forty years have passed since, on the deck of the U.S. battleship Missouri, after a symbolic minute of disgrace, the document on the complete and unconditional capitulation of militarist Japan was signed.

On 4 May, the leaders of the leading capitalist states of the West will gather on the deck of the unsinkable aircraft carrier, as the Japanese archipelago has been figuratively described by the present prime minister, Nakasone.

Between these two events there is not only a temporal or geographical connection but one of cause and effect. The present meeting of the "big seven", and the meetings have been held annually since 1975, will take place in the Far East. And this points in an unambiguous way to the desire to elevate the role of Japan, of the whole Asia-Pacific Ocean region in the system of international relations.

In many countries of the region, the revival of Japanese militarism is being followed with alarm. For this reason, for example, Japan is failing to implement the concept of creating a so-called Pacific Ocean community. This project, which originally proposed broad cultural and economic cooperation of the countries of Asia and the Pacific Ocean has suffered all the ruinous consequences of the U.S. course toward total military and political confrontation with the socialist camp. The developing countries of Southeast Asia are concerned most of all that the plan for a Pacific Ocean community in its present form can quickly be transformed into yet another militarist bloc.

In recent statement of the Soviet Government on the problems of the Asia-Pacific Ocean region, the USSR warned the developed capitalist countries, and above all of course the United States and Japan, against actions leading to an increase of tension in this region of the world. At the same time, the Soviet Union is putting forward very interesting and practical proposals for the improvement of the situation, to which far-sighted politicians cannot fail to respond.

The participants in the Tokyo meeting are faced with making a serious choice between the course of developing cooperation in conditions of equal security and the policy of a further escalation of the military confrontation in Asia and the Pacific basin, that is, on the scale of a whole hemisphere.

Arbatov Comments on Summit

OW051501 Tokyo NHK Television Network in Japanese 1235 GMT 5 May 86

[Interview with Georgiy Arbatov, director of the United States of American and Canada Institute of the USSR by NHK newscaster Taro Kimura recorded "about an hour ago this evening" via satellite link with Moscow; interview conducted in English version except for the last portion]

[Text] [Kimura] The declaration calls for the Western-Eastern unity, which I do not think you have any objection to it, but which also calls for substantial arms reduction by means of a high-level dialogue. What is the USSR's response to it?

[Arbatov] Well, we are for very deep reductions, we are for eliminating all nuclear weapons until the year 2,000, this was Gorbachev's proposal. We are for deep cuts in conventional weapons, we are also against any -- and we don't have any -- nuclear explosions since last August and the Hiroshima day. And we call for United States up till now to stop its nuclear explosions and to start talks on working out an agreement on comprehensive test ban. This is our [changes thought], so if they are serious, the seven nations, especially if the Americans are serious, because their position was the obstacle up till now, then we'll have good success. They should press more, I think, on President Reagan.

[Kimura] They also call for the high-level dialogue. Do you think the summit meeting between the USSR and the United States is still possible this year?

[Arbatov] Well, you know, I would reserve my opinion. I think it is a serious problem which has to be addressed by participants or their official representatives of this planned meeting.

But I would only make one comment, that you know you cannot do whatever you want meantime, between two summits, and have hopes for a good summit. You have to behave in the way you agreed upon at the first summit, and we haven't seen it from American side. And we are for summit which will bring substantial results, not for a cosmetic summit, which will just help some people in the United States to follow their small political goals and simply, you know, be a mockery and which will create illusions and mislead the public opinion. But we hope that the Americans will become serious and in this case the door for the summit is open.

[Kimura] Now, the statement, one on the statements is on nuclear safety, in which the seven nations have expressed their sympathy to USSR for the accident...

[Arbatov, interrupting] Thank you for the sympathy.

[Kimura] But also its...

[Arbatov, interrupting] This we really [changes thought] we are thankful to all those and there are very moving things, like thousands and thousands of donors who propose their bone marrow to transplant it, etcetera, and we don't need their help at the moment, but we are moved by this expression of sympathy by many people in the West and the East.

[Kimura] Now, the lack of information actually amplified unnecessary speculation and I think this was the case of this. And do you think you can supply with us more details of the accident.

[Arbatov] Of course there will be detailed information. It is just a part of this campaign. You expected from us too much too soon. We don't know yet the reasons for it. You know, if the Americans don't know the reasons why "Challenger" has perished in January why do you expect from us that we have all the information? At the moment nobody can approach this place, there is very high radiation still there, although it is covered already with a thick layer of concrete and other things. But the commission, whole commission of specialist works on it, we are sure about our technology in general -- and (MacCarthy), by the way, said that this reactor, it is called ABMK-1000, is a very dependable one, it was IAEA's assessment -- we don't know what happened, what do you expect from us. I was asked yesterday about the level of radiation, but where the level of radiation? At the place of the calamity it is very high. In 10 or 20 or 30 kilometers from it, it is also high, therefore we have evacuated people in Kiev, which is 130 kilometers from the place. It's okay, no danger at all, no high levels of radiation, everything is normal.

[Kimura] What I'm saying is you have to understand our public feeling that we don't know nothing, but still the contaminated rain actually is falling over Japan right now.

[Arbatov] Yes, you know it is I think [break in transmission] and it was the radioactive fallout was not [as heard] higher than from a single nuclear warhead exploding in the atmosphere. At the same time we are living with 50,000 warheads, with a NATO strategy where they give commitment to make first use of nuclear weapons. Aren't people concerned about it? Aren't [break in transmission] we are ready to work together to cooperate, I think we comply very much with the agreement about peaceful use of nuclear energy, but I think that we have right to expect fair treatment of this accident, where it is not used -- a calamity, a tragedy is not used for very bad intentions to spoil even more the international atmosphere. As we hope that those are the feelings of Japanese who have suffered the most in the world from nuclear weapons until now, and I hope that they will be the last victims of this.

[Kimura] Now, I'd like to go to the other statement which matter is the international terrorism. In this statement Libya was mentioned in particular, and the seven nations agreed to limit the size of the diplomacy and ban the export of the armament. Do you think this will end the international terrorism?

[Arbatov] Well, I don't think you believe that this will end international terrorism. I think that you had even some self-made rockets launched in Tokyo these days. I don't think they have anything to do with Libya or with Colonel al-Qadhafi. This is a very serious thing.

And you know I read this declaration, and the first paragraph sounds just fine. I thought at last they have listened to what Gorbachev has said at 27th party congress. And he said that undeclared wars, the export of counterrevolution, political assassination, taking of hostages, hijacking of aircraft, bomb explosions, such is the hideous face of terrorism. The USSR rejects terrorism and is prepared to cooperate actively with other states in order to uproot it. Here is our proposal, made already a couple of months ago.

But then you mention Libya. You know we have more reasons to blame United States for state-supported terrorism, because of what they do -- they arm contras, and who are contras? They are terrorists who fight against Nicaragua. They are armed, financed, trained by United States; they give Stingers to Savimbi also, hired terrorists, and to contras in Afghanistan. And these Stingers, this very dangerous weapon will be made maybe to be bought, to be purchased at the bazaar in Peshawar in several weeks, and then will be used against [break in transmission].

[Kimura, in Japanese] Japanese subtitles are unavailable as this moment for the rest of the interview because our translations were delayed. At this point, I asked Mr Arbatov to comment on the summit itself. He said:

Although it seems to be a little too early to make an assessment of the meeting, I see something like a compromise in these documents. The summit participants may have sought it. It looks like they have experienced difficulty achieving agreements among parties with different views. But what we need now is substantial dialogue between East and West, and North and South. What seems to be needed is not a dialogue between Western nations alone but a broader, larger-scale dialogue. To that end, I feel that the Western side should be more broadminded. In dealing with the terrorism and nuclear reactor issues, one should not engage in double-talk, saying one thing to his own side and another to the other side.

TASS Reports End of Summit

LD060907 Moscow TASS in English 0856 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Tokyo May 6 TASS -- A summit of seven leading capitalist countries ended here after adopting an "economic declaration" which indicates that they have failed to settle the most acute economic contradictions between them. The United States and Western Europe, for example, rejected Tokyo's request for the document to stress the need to reduce the dramatically increased yen rate, which has sent demand for Japanese goods falling.

France, for its part, frustrated Tokyo's and Washington's attempts to set an opening date in the declaration for new multilateral trade talks because Paris is opposed to any discussion at such negotiations of cuts in customs duties on farm produce.

KYODO TSUSHIN news agency summed up the results of the Tokyo meeting in so many words: "Japan's hopes have been dashed".

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD041848 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 4 May 86

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Yuriy Emmanuilovich Kornilov, TASS political observer; Aleksandr Vladimirovich Zholkver, Central Television and All-Union Radio political observer; and Kim Antonovich Gerasimov, All-Union Radio commentator]

[Text] [Gerasimov] Hello, comrades! Our meeting today is the first one in May. This week the peoples of our country and working people throughout the whole planet celebrated the day of international solidarity of working people. This year, as you know, this red-letter day was 100 years old. It was marked with particular warmth and excitement everywhere; from the U.S. city of Chicago where it was born, and where attempts were immediately made to stifle it at birth -- which, as you know, were not successful -- to towns in South Africa, where many thousands of people went out into the street, scorning the tear gas and plastic bullets. But our listeners have already read this in the newspapers, heard it on the radio, and seen it on television.

The only thing I would like to stress here is the fact that the broad scope of the May Day celebrations in the most varied countries disproves the allegations by our ideological opponents that the acuteness of class conflicts in the capitalist world are declining with the progress of science and technology. The attempts to disprove Marxism, though, are nothing new. We all remember how many times over the past 100 years Marxism has been written off and buried, both before and after the October Revolution. Against the backdrop of the recent mass demonstrations by the working people for the right to work, for democracy and peace, the impotence of those who would bury the ideas of Marxism stands out with particular clarity. This latest May Day was the first one after the 27th CPSU Congress. In the international sphere, as everyone knows, the congress put forward the idea of creating an all-embracing system of international security based on the concept of a nuclear-free world. The Soviet Union just recently reaffirmed its adherence to that concept. Our listeners are already familiar, of course, with the reply of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev to the message by the leaders of six countries, Argentina, India, Tanzania, Sweden, Mexico, and Greece. The response we are getting from abroad indicates that unbiased and honest politicians and public figures commend that document highly. The Soviet Union is once again showing goodwill: that is the overall tone of what they are saying. That is indeed how it is.

[Zholkver] Well, of course, because what is being raised here is what I would call one of the most important problems of today: the problem of banning nuclear tests. The letter from the leaders of the six countries stresses the urgent importance of the problem because the ending of nuclear tests would put a barrier both on the path of nuclear weapons development and on the path of the proliferation of nuclear weapons to other countries. In addition to everything else, it would release funds that could be used for the needs of the developing countries and to solve a whole number of social problems. The statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev in fact stresses that the Soviet Union views the ending and the banning of nuclear tests as a most important integral part of the movement toward realizing the concept of a nuclear-free world. Well, of course, a new situation has been created following the fact that the United States did not reply to our proposal for a moratorium on nuclear explosions, and that moreover it is continuing its nuclear tests. But, even in this new situation, the Soviet Union stresses that it is ready to return at any moment to the question of a mutual moratorium if the United States refrains from conducting nuclear tests.

We also support the idea that the Soviet Union and the United States refrain from carrying out nuclear tests at least in the period up to the next summit meeting. Even now, after an 8 month break in carrying out nuclear tests, the Soviet Union is in no hurry to resume them. We are ready for talks with the United States. As you know, we have proposed a meeting in Europe especially devoted to this question. This meeting is not to replace the one that agreement was reached on in Geneva, but the question brooks no delay. The letter by the six indeed stresses that this is precisely how they view the question of ending nuclear tests throughout the world: as a problem that cannot be put off.

[Kornilov] In addition, I would stress another aspect of the matter in this connection, namely that Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's reply to the letter from the six leaders is yet another confirmation that our country's foreign policy is overall a highly dynamic one, and that the Soviet Union's attitude in principle toward major international problems is continually backed up by acts of goodwill and new major and important initiatives. I recall in this connection, in addition to what we have already said, that international public opinion has a high opinion of the USSR's constructive proposals for a ban on chemical weapons; that there was a broad response in Europe and elsewhere to the Soviet initiative which aimed to effect a substantial reduction in so-called conventional armaments and armed forces on the European Continent from the Atlantic to the Urals; and that the proposals contained in the recent Soviet Government statement for strengthening peace, mutual understanding, and trust in the Asian-Pacific region were viewed everywhere as being of an exceptionally important and timely nature. All these are component parts of one political line, a line toward preserving and consolidating peace.

[Zholkver] I would single out in particular, apart from the global nature of the Soviet proposals, their completely concrete character. You have already mentioned, Yuriy Emmanuilovich, the Soviet Union's proposals for reducing conventional weapons. I had occasion to be in Berlin, at the congress of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, in fact, when Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev put forward these new proposals in his speech. Here, you see, it is a matter of considerable reduction of all components: the land forces and the tactical aircraft of the European states, and the corresponding forces of the United States and Canada stationed in Europe. Moreover, it is stressed that the military formations and units being reduced would have to be disbanded and their weapons destroyed. Simultaneously with conventional weapons, there would also be reductions in nuclear weapons for operational tactical purposes. You see how totally concrete it all is; and it must be said that it made a very great impression immediately on, specifically, the foreign journalists attending the congress. But, one further point was also made: It is a small part of the common, agreed position of the whole socialist community.

You know that these matters also have been discussed on more than one occasion by the highest body of the Warsaw Pact Organization, at the meeting of the Political Consultative Committee. They were discussed at the conference of foreign ministers of our community, and it is not fortuitous that it was mentioned at the party congress. The party congresses of the socialist countries, where Marxist-Leninist parties are ruling parties controlling the state, provide an opportunity, as it were, for synchronizing watches. This applies not only to comparing and coordinating positions on questions of economic and scientific-technical cooperation, but also, to no lesser a degree, to political and foreign policy cooperation. The GDR, specifically, also plays an active part in this. In fact, just a few days ago, new meetings were held of working groups from the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and the FRG's Social Democratic Party to discuss questions of creating a nuclear-free zone in the center of Europe, as well as a zone free of chemical weapons.

[Gerasimov] To continue our conversation, comrades, I would like to draw particular attention now not only to European problems, but also to Asian and Pacific problems. This is not fortuitous. Most of humanity lives in that region and, as for our country, the greater part of its territory lies precisely in the Asian and Pacific region. The problems of international security, the problems of the struggle for peace are no less acute there than, let's say, in old Europe. At this point, I would like to stress once again, just as you have stressed, Aleksandr Vladimirovich, the common, combined political line of the socialist countries. In the struggle for collective security on the Asian continent, they are acting in just as united a front and with the same degree of initiative as in Europe. We are familiar with the initiatives put forward by the Mongolian People's Republic and the socialist countries of Indochina. The DPRK produced a whole series of them.

Our listeners, of course, know of the Soviet Government statement on the position in the Asian and Pacific region. The Soviet Union has advanced -- and it is mentioned in that statement -- the proposal to start a broad exchange of views between all the interested countries in that part of the world on questions of arranging fair, mutually beneficial, and stable commercial, economic technological, scientific and cultural cooperation. The areas covered by such cooperation could be the development of productive forces; the training of cadres; the utilization of new energy sources, including nuclear power; the improvement of transportation and communications; the devising of new forms of commercial, economic, and financial cooperation that take into account the interests of the region's developing countries; the exchange of scientific and scientific-technical information; and so on. I will not list everything that it says. There are many proposals, and, I would just like to make the point that all of them pursue the aims of peaceful cooperation. This is all the more important, because the activities now being carried out by the United States and its allies in the Asian and Pacific region are, in fact, pursuing an end that cannot be regarded as corresponding to the interests of peace.

[Zholkver] Quite the opposite, in fact. The reactions to the Soviet Government statement from the region make the point that the Soviet proposals are in accord with the interests of those states. The Australian newspaper SYDNEY MORNING HERALD specially singles out the Soviet proposals for reducing the activities of naval forces in the Pacific Ocean and holding an all-Asian forum to examine security matters. The paper emphasizes that the Soviet proposals take into account the interests of the Asian and Pacific countries, including their economic interests. It seems to me that a vivid example of this correspondence between the Soviet proposals and the interests of the countries in the region, both in regard to strengthening peace and the economic field, is provided by the recent conference of ASEAN foreign ministers. I remind our listeners that this regional organization consists of Indonesia, the Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, and Brunei. ASEAN was founded in 1967. The latest meeting, on the Indonesian island of Bali, was, as it were, a pre-anniversary one. But it must be said that what was discussed there was most certainly not questions relating to anniversary celebrations, but the highly acute everyday problems of the Southeast Asian states. Primarily, as we have said, this means the problems of strengthening peace.

Were you not just speaking about U.S. policies in this region, Kim Antonovich? What are the principal areas covered by these policies? These are the holding of nuclear tests by the United States and France in the Pacific and use of this region as a bridgehead for concentrating major U.S. Navy and Air Force contingents.

[Kornilov] I would say the following in this connection: The ASEAN states that you have been talking about are regarded in Washington, generally speaking, as future members of a so-called Pacific commonwealth, which in the future could be transformed into a closed military alignment, that is another militarist bloc.

[Zholkver] One should say that it is precisely such a development that would not suit the region's countries. Let us take New Zealand as a concrete example. This country's government has made a specific decision banning naval ships carrying atomic weapons from calling at the country's ports. Well, it is absolutely clear against whom this decision is aimed, and it is not coincidental that it provoked the extreme displeasure of Washington, which has been and is making threats to take all sorts of punitive measures against New Zealand. But New Zealand Premier Lange declared that they were not going to yield an inch on the issue of nuclear weapons on their territory, and stressed that the government's decision was going to be attached the status of a special law. The interesting thing was, Washington started saying in reply that in that case, it will stop protecting New Zealand from the Soviet threat. In reply, the premier said that New Zealand was threatened by no one and that it did not feel any need for protectors of this sort. And you know, it seems appropriate for me to dwell here not only on these foreign policy and military policy problems, pressing and important though they are, but on economic problems as well.

[Gerasimov] Right, I would like to remind you here of the fact that it is precisely today which is the first day of the Tokyo summit of leaders of the seven most industrially developed capitalist countries: the United States, Canada, Britain, France, Italy, the FRG, and Japan. This annual summit meeting is being convened for the 12th time. You know, one can view these conferences from different angles, both from the angle of distributing profitable areas among partners, and from the point of view of elaborating a joint strategy of opposing the national liberation and revolutionary movements; and from the point of view of coordination of the most, so to speak, crafty methods of tightening the noose of debts around the neck of the Third World countries. But, no matter what the viewing angle is, the existence of acute conflicts within the big seven and primarily between the United States, Japan, and West European countries -- the three principal centers of present-day imperialism -- would be a common feature. The objective of each conference is, naturally, to reach a compromise.

But the size of mutual concessions will be determined by the positions gained by the participating countries in trade and currency wars among themselves by the time the summit is held. One might say that Japan now has risen to the commanding heights of the world capitalist economy. No, in terms of gross national product, the United States still leads the race. Japan, however, has already left the principal capitalist power well behind in terms of products competitiveness. It has also left it behind in terms of products competitiveness. It has also left it behind in terms of the number of credits given to other countries. Japan is presently the world's number one creditor, whereas the United States has enormous debts; it is one of the world's major indebted countries. Japanese commodities forced their way into the U.S. domestic market, compelling the commodities bearing the label "made in USA" [previous three words in English] to disappear from shop displays. The U.S. trade deficit with Japan has reached almost \$50 billion. Similar problems have shaped themselves in relations between Japan and Western Europe. Both the United States and Western Europe demand that Japan curb its appetite. At the same time, one should not err by regarding Japan's partners as helpless and harmless. Over a whole number of years, the U.S. financial capital had been making limitless profits by arbitrarily rocketing interest rates in U.S. banks, thus securing a powerful influx of money from abroad, primarily from Western Europe, which, naturally, badly impaired the latter's economic growth. But now the United States has very skillfully punched its Pacific ally in the guts, as they say, by flooding the Japanese stock exchange with dollars. As a result, the dollar has sharply declined against the Japanese yen, and the prices of Japanese goods in dollars on the U.S. market have promptly risen accordingly. This time, Japan is complaining. The list of similar mutual complaints could be extended, but it is hardly necessary. The partners, naturally, will be trying to snatch as much as possible from each other at the talks.

At the same time -- and one should not forget this -- the common nature of their class interests will be compelling them to seek certain accords. The question is, at whose expense? No doubt, at the expense of those whom their custom has been to exploit: developing countries and their own working people, their own workers.

[Kornilov] The seven in Japan will also have to touch upon issues of great importance, such as debts of developing countries to the developed capitalist countries.

[Zholkver] Yes, a debt which already reaches \$1 trillion. One gets the impression that they will try to enforce a solution to the economic problems eating away at the main countries of the capitalist world not by some economic means, but under the pretext of the struggle against terrorism. It is a case of practically forcing the U.S. allies to agree to the United States being the sole master in determining the direction of their foreign policy. But this calls forth natural opposition and, nevertheless, in spite of the great opposition to U.S. plans, it is precisely under the pretext of terrorism, with the aim of forcing its own view of this problem on its allies, that it is going to the Tokyo meeting of the seven countries.

[Kornilov] In connection with what you are saying, Aleksandr Vladimirovich, I would remind you of this statement, and I quote: In whatever country of the globe there are disturbances or an internal social struggle taking place, all such phenomena are invariably interpreted by our opponents as the work of the hands of imaginary Soviet agents supplied with imaginery Soviet gold. What is interesting is that this is not a present-day statement nor even one of yesterday. That is what Chicherin, the first Soviet people's commissar for foreign affairs wrote as long ago as 1927, a period when British reactionary circles were developing another one of their provocative campaigns against the Soviet Union. Decades have gone by since then and the tactics, these provocative tactics of our ideological opponents, have not changed. The same fabrications are whipped up even today in order to conceal, to mask the so-called doctrine of neoglobalism.

[Gerasimov] The scale of the attempts Washington has made with the help of armed force and subversive operations in order to dictate its will to sovereign countries and peoples, is borne out by these facts. For example: In waging the undeclared war against sovereign Afghanistan, the United States has already spent over \$1 billion. As is reported, over \$500,000 a year are spent on sabotage operations against Ethiopia. Over \$100 million have been spent by the CIA on arming the terrorist bands from the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola active in Angolan territory.

[Kornilov] Very recently, the press reported facts about the destruction and victims of the U.S. bombings of Libya. Well, as we are talking about, so to speak, expressing the scale of hegemonist, interventionist acts of the United States in figures, in statistics, then many other facts must be added. Can one, for example, really forget the U.S. aggression against Vietnam where the U.S. military, having conceived the idea of bombing Vietnam back into the Stone Age, introduced the fanaticism of the colonizers multiplied by the destructive power of modern means of destruction? During the dirty war the United States fought in Vietnam, hundreds of thousands of people died. More than 7 million metric tons of bombs were dropped on Vietnamese soil by the aggressor and 48 million liters of the poisonous substance Agent Orange, the poisonous effects of which tens of thousands of Vietnamese are suffering from even to this day, were sprayed over fields and forests.

[Gerasimov] Well, these statistics are truly horrifying, but one must also add these facts to this data: During the undeclared war that Washington unleashed and is fighting against Afghanistan, dozens of enterprises have been destroyed and burned as well as over 2,000 schools.

Enormous damage has been caused by the subversive activities of counterrevolutionary bands being sent into Afghanistan. The scale of the undeclared war unleashed by Washington on 1980 against another sovereign state, Nicaragua, is increasing. As Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega said in a recent interview with the Mexican agency NOTIMEX, in the past 5 years, at least 11,000 Nicaraguans have been killed through the fault of the United States. Another 5,000 were wounded, and 250,000 were forced to leave their home towns and move into the interior of the country. These are sinister statistics, if you think about it.

[Kornilov] And that is not all: The U.S. press reports that during the present Republican administration's term, the number of special CIA operations has increased by at least a factor of five and the CIA presently is carrying out around 50 major operations of this kind in various regions of the world. As Stockwell, a former CIA employee, reports, the number of victims of the secret wars the U.S. special services are waging in the developing countries is already around 3 million people. Such are the results of U.S. hegemonism, the balance of terror, so to speak, created by Washington in various parts of the world.

[Zholkver] Well, you were just speaking about all kinds of covert and secret U.S. operations, as they are called. It should be said that this now really is becoming one of the main directions of U.S. foreign policy and, you know, this is most closely linked with the general, present situation in the United States, including the social situation. You see, it is really a disgrace that a country, the most wealthy country of the capitalist world, a country which tries to dictate to all others how they should behave, what freedom and democracy are, that this country has 23 million illiterate people.

[Kornilov] About 12 million unemployed...

[Zholkver, interrupting] And well, really, when all these figures and facts come before the mind's eye, one cannot help but think of times 100 years back. You see, really, it was against all this, against social inequality, against ignorance, against oppression that U.S. workers in Chicago came out at what was then the first May Day demonstration. Here, it should be said that the historical contribution of communists lies precisely in the fact that they headed the struggle for liberation, for human rights, and now are in the first ranks in the struggle to save mankind from a nuclear catastrophe.

[Gerasimov] And so, comrades, today in our conversation we examined two directions, two approaches to international affairs: that of the Soviet Union and the socialist community as a whole on the one hand, and the Western countries on the other. I want to stress that in our approach, concern for guaranteeing equal security for all, developing a comprehensive system of international security is what prevails. Our initiatives are universal; they discriminate against no one, leave no one outside the framework of agreements. They are aimed at peaceful cooperation, while the policy of the West is directed at developing closed groups, at providing certain groups of countries with advantages at the expense of others. In a few days, progressive mankind will be marking another, the 41st, anniversary of the great victory, the victory over Hitlerite fascism. Our party, our state will do everything possible so that the tragedy of world war, now the nuclear variety, will never be repeated again. This is what peaceful Soviet initiatives are directed toward. This is what the work of all Soviet people is directed toward; your work, comrades. Our meeting today is over. All the best to you!

CASEY'S S. AFRICA TRIP TIED TO UNITA ARMS

PM051741 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 May 86 Morning Edition p 4

[F. Konopikhin commentary under the "Notes Apropos" rubric: "The CIA Boss' Baggage"]

[Text] CIA Director W. Casey visited South Africa recently on the U.S. President's instructions. Visits there by high-ranking U.S. officials have become a matter of routine. What was unusual, however, in this case was the "explanation" of the aim of the visit given by THE WASHINGTON POST. It assured its readers that Casey's mission was to "hermetically isolate" Pretoria from the deliveries of the latest Stinger anti-aircraft missiles to Savimbi, the leader of the anti-Angolan group, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA].

Why should the United States suddenly begin talking about "isolating" its "constructive engagement" partner? The point is, as a CBS television correspondent pointed out, that you just cannot hide the fact of the transfer of modern missiles. Therefore Washington, judging by all accounts, resorted to the ploy of "leaking" deliberate disinformation. The Stingers and other arms, it was claimed, would reach the counterrevolutionary gangs via Zaire.

The experienced hand of the provocateur can be felt in the desire to sour relations between the two neighboring countries. Moreover, this is not the first such attempt to be made in recent months. The seizure of hostages in Angola and their subsequent release on Zairian territory was Savimbi's first "combat" operation after his return from Washington. The anti-Angolan group is clearly trying to create the impression that it is being given all-around support in Kinshasa. The Zairian authorities have rebutted these inventions and given assurances that Zaire remains true to a policy of good-neighborliness.

In reality, in supplying the latest arms to terrorist gangs on the South African and U.S. special services' payroll, Washington has no intention at all of "isolating" Pretoria. Quite the reverse. The same CBS correspondent observes that the Americans will have to organize the training of Savimbi's men in handling the Stingers, whose delivery via South Africa is being dealt with by Casey's department. And it was to resolve these questions that the CIA boss went off the southern Africa.

U.S. PLANNING NEW STRIKES AGAINST LIBYA

LD060630 Moscow TASS in English 0608 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Washington May 6 TASS — According to a CBS television company report, the Reagan administration is drawing up plans to launch new strikes against sovereign Libya's territory with the use of cruise missiles tipped with non-nuclear warheads.

At present, the television company said, they at the Pentagon are discussing the question of the choice of targets. Albeit no final decision on nuclear strikes has been taken so far, the U.S. Air Force and Navy have been ordered to send to the Mediterranean new ships and submarines equipped with nuclear missiles.

As is known, a powerful naval armada of three aircraft carrier groups has already been massed there.

'Crime' Decried

PM021508 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 May 86 First Edition p 4

[T. Kolesnichenko report: "The Libyan Lesson; A Journalist Returns From an Assignment"]

[Text] Tripoli, Moscow -- The first thing that strikes you on arrival at the Libyan airport is a large white sheet on which the following words have been written in black gouache: "We are the sworn enemies of U.S. imperialism and its policy of crude force!"

This sentence, as it were, contains the answer to the question people all over the world -- international observers as well as people far removed from politics -- have been asking themselves of late, namely, why has specifically Libyan a small Arab country in terms of its population, been the target of aggression by the world's largest and most powerful imperialist country -- the United States -- twice during the past month? Everyone is familiar with Washington's official explanation claiming that the United States resorted to "self-defense" in protecting its country from the "aggressor's terrorism." This ridiculous claim is about as far removed from the truth as U.S. borders are from the shores of Libya where the U.S. bombing attack was launched.

If you follow Washington's "logic," Libya's "aggression" was not carried out now, but 17 years ago...

It was then that on 1 September 1969, a group of young Libyan officers headed by Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi toppled the country's monarchy. The new regime did not confine itself to changing the state's image but embarked on eliminating foreign domination without delay. Only a year later the United States had to close down Wheelus Field, one of its largest air bases in Africa and the Middle East. After that it was the oil monopolies' turn. In Washington's eyes, the Libyan leadership committed the "ultimate sin" by nationalizing the oil industry, thus laying hands on U.S. property and depriving the United States of its control over the country's economy.

As far as Washington is concerned, Libya is no less "culpable" in the sphere of international affairs. Here everything from Tripoli's active participation in the Nonaligned Movement to Libya's outspoken anti-imperialist course, its uncompromising stance on the U.S.-Israeli collusion against the Arab people, and its growing influence on the situation in the Mediterranean evokes indignation on the banks of the Potomac.

Thus, the unbridled anti-Libyan campaign did not begin today or yesterday. This campaign, just like the slogans "Stop Al-Qadhdhafi" and "Teach Libya a lesson" emerged in the early seventies. However, there is another date which has a direct bearing on the current events. Not everyone remembers that in the first official statement of the new U.S. Administration on its foreign policy priorities (this dates to the beginning of 1981) "combating international terrorism" took pride of place. And the observers who were proved right were the ones who concluded there and then that Washington would use this as a front for its attempts to combat the entire national liberation movement, particularly in the world's "flash points" and that by labeling as "terrorists" figures whom it considered unacceptable, the United States itself would resort to criminal acts of terrorism right up to and including attempts on the life of politicians whom it considered most "dangerous." I was reminded of this during a flight aboard a Libyan aircraft which took a complicated route from Rome to Tripoli (taking a sharp diversion over Tunisian territory in order to avoid the positions of the U.S. 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean) when a U.S. correspondent who was sitting next to me said in an offhand manner: "It is not over yet. After all, a decision has been made at the very top back home to liquidate Al-Qadhdhafi and to change the regime in Libya. And once they have decided, they will try again."

Beyond the window it was getting dark and clouds were swirling above the sea. It was the 3d day after the massive U.S. air raid on Tripoli. The following day, the Libyans showed us the bombs that failed to explode. They had been intended for the shelters. They were supposed to penetrate the concrete, bore through the earth, and explode deep down. And the target was M. al-Qadhafi's residence.

It has now become known that the bombing raid on Tripoli had been in preparation since January this year. While drawing arrows on the city's map, the Washington strategists simultaneously stepped up their psychological warfare against Libya. Preparing to kill M. al-Qadhafi and his family, including the children, Washington piled on accusations against the leader of the Libyan revolution in an attempt to convince the public of his complicity in the "villainous murders" at the Rome and Vienna airports. Washington's yes-man, Israeli Prime Minister Peres, who was at that time well informed about the plans of his "strategic ally," declared without blushing: "The center of international terrorism is located in Libya."

No, it was not; it was located in Washington.

It was there the preparations took place for the acts of state terrorism which were committed in the Gulf of Sidra and later in Tripoli and Benghazi, the two cities that were subjected to the barbaric air attack by the United States, an attack which represents a glaring violation of the elementary norms of international law, morality, and conduct. And this is probably the main and most revealing lesson of the Libyan events.

Back in Tunis, on our way to Libya, we witnessed the Arabs' reaction to the U.S. brigandage in Libya. Gayya Fessi was unable to hold back her tears: "Yesterday on television I saw maimed corpses, dying and wounded children. Oh, God, what are these murderers doing. May they be damned." This young woman was one of the thousands of demonstrators who were moving down the narrow streets of the Tunisian capital like a living river, converging on the U.S. Embassy surrounded by armored personnel carriers.

Unforgettable too was the wailing in Tripoli on the day of the funeral when the crowd thronging the city's main thoroughfare, Jamahiriyah Street, carrying dozens of coffins, paid the last respects to the victims of the barbaric bombing. It was a terrible sight. But it was no less terrible to hear from the U.S. journalists who were filming this procession that in their country many people were rejoicing and, seized by chauvinism, approved of the bombing of peaceful inhabitants, women, and children in Libya. It is possible to understand the Americans who were outraged at the explosion at the La Belle discotheque in West Berlin. It is even possible to imagine that, misled by the official rhetoric of the White House, the press, and television, many Americans believed that it was "Tripoli's work." But what have the city's peacefully sleeping inhabitants including women and children got to do with this? The main point I want to make is that believing or suspecting is by no means the same as having incontrovertible evidence. Anyone who knows anything about America knows what a big difference they make (and this applies not only to legal terms but also to public opinion) between the concept of being a "suspect" and being "guilty." When, at the time, President Nixon referred to the sadist Manson who butchered several families in California as a murderer before the court had passed sentence, the entire U.S. press described his words as the "slip of the century." How could he claim that Manson was a murderer, they said, if, until the court's official verdict he remained merely a suspect. But Libya is not even a "suspect," and moreover that is not for the Americans to judge. May those who rejoiced on the day of the Libyan children's funeral be judged by their consciences.

People in America are very fond of talking about charity. But those who bombed Tripoli had none. And neither did those who enthused about their "surgical operations" which turned into a bloodbath, nor those who later celebrated in America's streets.

People whose minds are befuddled with ideas of pseudopatriotism and who are put in a state of frenzy by chauvinist propaganda lose their heads and common sense. They are trampling under foot the very moral principles which they profess. And this is very dangerous, not least for the Americans themselves.

If America was "buoyed up" by the aggression, other peoples, including in countries that are America's closest allies, saw the U.S. aggression in a quite different light. This is what the West German magazine STERN wrote a few days ago: "More than 70 percent of Americans applauded the actions which claimed the lives of completely innocent people. On the other hand, as a public opinion poll has shown, more than 70 percent of West Germans denounced the act. These figures reflect something that by far exceeds the framework of one isolated incident, namely the profound concern felt by many Europeans at the sight of the increasing aggressiveness of U.S. foreign policy." STERN has even harsher words to say about the U.S. actions. By attacking Libya, the magazine writes, Washington "rocked the foundations of the Western alliance whose recommendations it spurned. There is no use pretending that the renowned 'common values' which are constantly referred to in ceremonial speeches calling for the cohesion of the NATO alliance still exist. The U.S. bombs and missiles that fell in Tripoli and Benghazi killed not only completely innocent people but also loyalty within NATO."

I apologize to readers for the long quotation, but if you think about it, these lines have, after all, not been written just anywhere but in a West European country that is described as a "model ally" of the United States and whose government is regarded in Washington as "our buddy." To be fair, we must note that the leaders of the U.S. NATO allies did not go beyond timid attempts to stop the rampant aggressor. But the latter ignored that too. When Walters, the permanent U.S. representative at the United Nations who speaks 10 languages, visited the West European capitals as the personal representative of the U.S. President and failed to find a common language with the heads of government, this did not stop the criminal raid on Libya either. Furthermore, Washington is now putting "additional pressure" on its allies, asking them to apply increasingly tough sanctions against Libya. Judging by appearances, this is also the task the U.S. President has set himself at the conference in Tokyo. The British newspaper THE GUARDIAN, referring to high-level sources in Washington, claims that "the United States has plans to remove al-Qadhafi from power. The Tokyo summit will be used to induce the European allies to take new 'antiterrorist' (read 'anti-Libyan') actions." The question arises: What does Washington need all this for? After all, it has ignored the allies' opinion in the past, and if need be, will ignore it in the future. Well, this is not a matter of formalities. If necessary, U.S. bombers will cross the allies' airspace and the 6th Fleet will enter their territorial waters without asking. The point is something else. In Tokyo, the United States wants to tie all its colleagues with one rope, to place "equal responsibility" for the crime against Libya (and possibly also for future crimes) on all its main partners.

Washington has clearly underestimated the scale of the public outrage evoked throughout the world by the attack on Libya and its adventurist cowboy policy. And another detail: It was hoped in the United States that the bomb explosions in Tripoli and Benghazi would drown the voice of the people demanding that Washington change its strategic arms policy and in particular end nuclear tests and take real steps in the disarmament sphere. This did not happen. On the contrary, the "neoglobalist" Libyan venture has further exposed the dangerous arrogance of those people in America who "pull the trigger." This too is an important lesson to be learned from the recent events. Therefore, try as they may in Washington, they will not be able to juggle with words and supplant the main problem of the present time, namely the elimination of the threat of a nuclear catastrophe which concerns all mankind, by the problem of "terrorism."

Summing up, it can be said outright that in attacking Libya, the United States failed to achieve a single objective. It failed to undermine the country's regime or to break its people's spirit.

The "canard" about the "antigovernment demonstrations" in Tripoli burst like a soap bubble no sooner than it was launched, which the numerous Western journalists on the spot were forced to acknowledge.

In the foreign policy sphere, the United States has suffered greater moral damage than it has sustained for a long time. This has become particularly evident in its relations with "Third World" countries, which were able to see for themselves that Washington's words about "friendship and cooperation" are not worth a dime. U.S. relations with Arab countries have also deteriorated. Even those among them which are dependent on Washington have denounced the U.S. aggression against Libya. And the sinister contours of the U.S.-Israeli alliance have emerged even more clearly.

Libya did not stand on its own. The Soviet Union lodged a resolute protest with the U.S. Administration demanding that it end its adventurist anti-Libyan policy. The Soviet Government statement and M.S. Gorbachev's message had a great impact on the Libyan and the world public.

The following phrase is ascribed to the French Minister Fouché in response to Napoleon's order to assassinate the Duke of Enghien: "This is worse than a crime, it is a mistake." In attacking Libya, the United States has committed both a crime and a mistake. This crime cannot ever be justified. But you can learn from mistakes, you can try and rectify them, provided the will is there. Though, to be frank, Washington's current policy inspires little hope.

WALL STREET JOURNAL CITED ON U.S. NUCLEAR ACCIDENTS

LD060715 Moscow TASS in English 0709 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] New York May 6 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vladislav Orlov reports:

The accidents, which have repeatedly occurred at U.S. atomic power plants in recent years, "are signs of trouble in the U.S. nuclear programme". This unconsoling conclusion is drawn by the newspaper "WALL STREET JOURNAL", a publication of the U.S. business circles.

Last year alone, THE WALL STREET JOURNAL said, there were three serious accidents fraught with most disastrous consequences. "Last June, an Ohio nuclear power plant suffered a series of operator errors and equipment malfunctions". A reactor went out of control causing "40 minutes of chaos and fast-approaching disaster".

"Five months later, in November, an atomic plant in southern California flirted with a series overheating of the reactor's nuclear-fuel core."

"In December, a nuclear reactor near Sacramento, Calif... Dumped hundreds of gallons of radio-active cooling water inside the plant. It was only the last in a series of problems at the facility that have been traced to poor training and equipment."

Yet, THE WALL STREET JOURNAL points out, according to a report issued the other day by the Federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the above-said accidents were only a part of similar accidents registered from 1984 to 1985. All this is evidence of the poor safeguards at the U.S. nuclear power plants. The recommendations prepared by experts after the major accident of 1979 at the three Mile Island nuclear plant in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, are yet to be implemented at all of the 100 operating nuclear reactors of that country.

At the same time, the newspaper points out, the authorities are taking various steps to limit public access to information about the safety standards at the nuclear power plants of the USA.

This particularly clearly manifested itself after the accident at the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant. As the newspaper NEW YORK TIMES said, seven months have passed before public could learn about the real scale of the accident. And the NBC television company pointed out in its turn that it was very difficult for the local population to get any information about how serious the accident was.

PRAVDA: 20,000 Accidents

LD051252 Moscow TASS in English 1107 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 5 TASS -- Some 20,000 various accidents and cases of malfunctioning have taken place at U.S. atomic power plants since 1979. This figure was released by the authors of a report drawn up by the U.S. public organization "public citizen's mass energy project," PRAVDA wrote today.

The data collected by them show that the number of accidents at U.S. atomic power plants is growing from one year to the next. Thus, in 1979 2,310 accidents took place at 68 U.S. atomic power plants. The consequences of an accident at the "Three Mile Island" atomic power plant near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, were especially serious. A partial meltdown of the protective cover of the reactor took place there.

According to the report, the accident involved a serious leakage of radioactivity whose traces were registered on a very big territory -- as far away as in the state of Maine, in the north-west [as received] of the country.

In 1980 the number of accidents at U.S. atomic power plants went up to reach 3,804 a year. The figure for the next year is 4,060. In 1983 over 5,000 accidents were registered. 247 of them were described by the nuclear regulation commission as especially serious. In other words, according to the report, dangerous accidents took place nearly every day at American atomic plants.

The report of the organization was published at the time when an unrestrained anti-Soviet campaign in connection with the accident at the Chernobyl atomic power plant is being fanned up in the U.S. The idea that nothing like this can ever happen in the U.S. is repeated over and over again. However, the facts cited by the report show that it is not so.

COMMENTARY ON U.S. 'GLOBALISM' IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

BK051034 Moscow in Thai to Thailand 1200 GMT 3 May 86

[Commentary by Station Commentator (Boris Feyodorov) entitled: "The New U.S. Globalism in the Southeast Asian Region"]

[Text] The Cambodian problem has greatly damaged stability in the Southeast Asian region. However, the solution proposed by the United States should draw special attention. There has been a trend within ASEAN to open a political dialogue among Southeast Asian countries. Indonesia has taken some actions -- such as the regular meetings between Indonesia and Vietnam as interlocutors of ASEAN and Indochinese states, respectively. The latest meeting was held between the foreign ministers of the two countries while they were attending the meeting of the Nonaligned Coordinating Bureau in New Delhi. The Indonesian Administration maintained that the problems of Southeast Asia, including the Cambodian issue, can be solved through negotiations and the compromise of legitimate interests of all parties concerned. Such an attitude is conducive to efforts to settle disputes in the region.

Meanwhile, the United States, being annoyed by such developments, obstinately gives its support to certain groups that prefer the use of force in maintaining relations with the Indochinese countries, thus risking military confrontations in Southeast Asia.

President Reagan announced that the United States together with its ASEAN friends are convinced that they can force Vietnam to withdraw its troops from Cambodia in order to allow the Cambodian people to decide their own future. We wonder how President Reagan could reverse the consequence and its cause in this regard. Everybody knows that the Cambodian people have already chosen their way. They have legally elected their own government. The present government enjoys the support of the Cambodian masses and is in full control of all Cambodia. The presence of Vietnamese troops in Cambodia was made at the request of the Cambodian leadership and is intended to protect the country from external threats. This is the right of every sovereign country as prescribed in the UN Charter. Both Vietnam and Cambodia have expressed their desire for reconciliatory negotiations during the past years; Vietnamese volunteer soldiers were pulled out of Cambodia and their complete withdrawal is expected in 1990. Certainly, the troop withdrawal can be accelerated if there is no continuing threat from the Pol Pot remnants now entrenched inside Thailand. Over the past 7 years, they have launched aggression against Cambodia and have destroyed stability and security in the areas bordering Thailand. It is no secret that different groups of Cambodian refugees lack support of the people in Cambodia as they are fighting each other within their own groups. Without assistance from their foreign bosses, particularly the United States, they could never survive. The United States has provided not only moral support but also financial and material aid for them. It should be noted that the United States has now openly helped the Cambodian antigovernment groups. For example, the U.S. Congress recently approved a budget of \$5 million for the Cambodian refugees, which raises the question as to whether the U.S. assistance for the Pol Pot subversive clique would contribute to a peaceful solution to the problems in Southeast Asia or not. Critics in Asian countries rightly observe that the said U.S. behavior fits well with the U.S. new globalism policy designed to control the internal affairs of independent countries.

Southeast Asian people are worried about another U.S. policy [words indistinct] different groups. the U.S. Administration is trying to persuade ASEAN member countries to serve its new globalist plan. Senior U.S. militarists even regard Thailand as a front-line state. Efforts are being intensified to reopen U.S. military bases in Thailand, while circles in Bangkok are thinking of establishing the U.S. war reserve stockpile. No one tries to conceal that the movement has military objectives. The Indochinese countries are openly labelled as the enemy. The U.S.-formulated method of strengthening regional stability has caused uneasiness among the Southeast Asian countries as it also runs counter to ASEAN's policy of being a zone of peace, freedom, and neutrality in Southeast Asia. Common experiences of the people in this region have proved that common stability can be jointly created only through peaceful agreement, banning external interference, and through the respect of sovereignty and the legitimate interests of each other.

U.S. MOTIVES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA QUESTIONED

BK011449 Moscow in Indonesian to Indonesia 1300 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Vladimir Viktorov commentary]

[Text] According to news agency reports, U.S. President Ronald Reagan has held talks on security issues in Asia with ASEAN leaders in Bali. The recent statements issued by Asian leaders show that security is indeed a valid issue on this continent. U.S. Government officials have also issued several peace-loving statements, albeit insincerely, on Asia-Pacific security. However, it is not hard to see there are differences in the approach taken by Washington and ASEAN leaders toward various existing problems. An example is that ASEAN has agreed to take concrete steps to solve the Cambodian problem. A dialogue between Indonesia and Vietnam to resolve the issue has been going on regularly with each representing ASEAN and Indochinese countries. ASEAN countries have been increasingly convinced that the so-called Cambodian problem can be solved through negotiations only by paying attention to the interests of the countries involved in the conflict.

However, the U.S. Government has never ceased its support for the Pol Pot clique, sheltered in Thai territory. Recently, the Reagan administration allocated \$5 million in aid to this clique. This action can only contribute to the continuing confrontation in Southeast Asia. In this connection, many people have come to the conclusion that U.S. political moves in Asia are aimed at intensifying mutual prejudice and fears in this vast continent. This kind of situation serves the global strategy of the White House because it will encourage the arms race.

It is no coincidence that during his recent Southeast Asian tour, U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger tried to convince his hosts in the Philippines, Thailand, and Indonesia of the need to boost the U.S. military presence in this region, namely through the deployment of U.S. nuclear arsenal for preemptive strikes against its enemy. It is worth noting that the utilization of such offensive weapons from bases outside the U.S. territory is also part of the Strategic Defense Initiative or the so-called star wars program. However, as was pointed out by a Philippine magazine [name indistinct], these weapons will lead Southeast Asian countries to a miserable situation, namely they will become the Pentagon's nuclear hostages.

The Asian community is also concerned over the White House's intransigent moves to justify the aggressive actions of U.S. military hawks in various parts of the world, sometimes in places located thousands of miles from U.S. shores. The recent barbaric bombings of Libyan cities brought about waves of indignation in Indonesia and Malaysia. Even the Thai representative at the United Nations endorsed a resolution condemning the brutal attack. However, during the current talks with leaders of these countries in Bali, President Reagan again tried to justify its action in accordance with the law of the jungle in international relations.

In this connection, an appropriate question arises. Who can guarantee that such an aggressive nature will not prevail in the so-called Pacific Community -- a community into which President Reagan is trying to pull the ASEAN countries? The Pacific Community will then be changed into a NATO-type military pact under the protective U.S. umbrella. It is not hard to prove that participation in such a military pact runs counter to the documents already announced on the proposed formation of a zone of peace, freedom, and neutrality in Southeast Asia. In fact, the Soviet Government recently issued a statement on the issues of security and cooperation in Asia and the Pacific. The statement, widely acclaimed in Asia, also formulates a constructive action program. This will enable Asian countries to lay down preliminary requirements for the convening of an Asian forum.

ASIAN-PACIFIC TU SEMINAR URGES END TO NUCLEAR TESTS

LD050647 Moscow TASS in English 0621 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] Hanoi, May 6 TASS -- Participants in the international trade union seminar of Asian and Pacific countries which ended here yesterday, called for an immediate end to nuclear weapons tests.

The seminar attended by trade unions of Vietnam, Kampuchea, Laos, the USSR, Australia, Thailand, the Philippines and Japan, as well as the World Federation of Trade Unions concentrated on struggle for peace, security and cooperation. A press release issued by the seminar runs that the struggle against criminal designs and actions of imperialism is an important task of trade unions in all the countries when imperialist forces headed by the USA are whipping up the arms drive, are entertaining plans for space militarization and are pushing mankind to the brink of a nuclear disaster.

Seminar participants resolutely denounced the U.S. air raids on Tripoli and Benghazi, appraising them as a blatant aggressive action against sovereign Libya.

The seminar gave close attention to the situation in the Asian and Pacific region, displaying great interest in the recent statement by the Soviet Government. The strengthening of mutual confidence, friendship and goodneighborly relations between Asian and Pacific countries, pooling of their efforts in a joint search for constructive solutions of the security problems in Asia and the Pacific would have a salutary influence on the situation in the region and make a contribution to preserving and consolidating world peace. The struggle for peace is the most urgent and vitally important task of peoples all over the world -- this is the unanimous conclusion made by seminar participants, the press release points out.

LAO PRIME MINISTER ASSESSES 27TH CPSU CONGRESS

PM011900 Moscow NEW TIMES in English No. 15, 21 Apr 86 pp 14-15

[Interview with Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and prime minister by correspondent Vladimir Godyna: "Phomvihan: Soviet Experience Invaluable;" date and place not given]

[Text] The general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party (LPRP), Premier Kaysone Phomvihan headed the LPRP delegation to the 27th CPSU Congress. Before returning home, he granted the following interview to our correspondent Vladimir Godyna.

[Godyna] Could you share your impressions of the Soviet Communists' forum?

[Kaysone Phomvihan] First of all, I'd like to note that I have had the honour of attending several CPSU congresses. Among them, the 27th Congress holds a special place. It is a momentous and historic landmark in the political life of the Soviet people, and an event of great importance. The congress carried out a scientific analysis of the country's achievements and of the experience accumulated by the Communist Party and the Soviet people in the course of the implementation of the third CPSU Programme. Nor did it pass over shortcomings and mistakes. Taking all this into account, a programme of action for the coming period, unprecedented in depth and scope, was elaborated. Simultaneously, the tasks facing the nation were defined and ways of carrying them out indicated. In short, there is every reason to say that the congress marks a historic turning point on the path of accelerated socio-economic progress of your country on the basis of the wide application of the latest in science and technology, the utilization of the potential and advantages of the socialist systems, and greater efficacy of party guidance.

We are confident that the Programme adopted by the congress will certainly be implemented.

The congress documents contain the answers to a range of theoretical and practical questions relating to communist construction at various stages, thus further enriching the Marxist-Leninist teaching. The congress is therefore of immense importance not only for the Soviet Union but for the socialist community as a whole, for all countries that have chosen the path of socialist development.

[Godyna] Laos included?

[Kaysone Phomvihane] Undoubtedly. The decade of socialist change in our country shows that the conclusions of the 27th CPSU Congress are invaluable to us as well, for at present we, too, are doing away with the bureaucratic mechanism of economic management.

The new structure of economic management combines planning, calculation and control, and socialist enterprise. To abolish the bureaucratic mechanism and the practice of state subsidies and to develop socialist enterprise, factories and plants are being given economic independence, but their responsibility for the final results of their work is greater.

We hope that as a result of the present reform, enterprises now operating at a loss will become profitable, budget revenues will steadily increase and living standards rise.

We wholeheartedly support the peace programme set out in the Political Report of the Central Committee to the 27th congress.

Along with the Soviet Union, other socialist states and all peace-loving and progressive forces we shall do everything in our power to safeguard peace and our civilization.

The Lao people, who for decades suffered from imperialist aggression, has today only one desire -- to work creatively and live in peace and friendship with all peoples, particularly our neighbors.

[Godyna] In this connection, what could you say about your country's relations with Socialist Vietnam and People's Kampuchea?

[Kaysone Phomvihane] I can note with satisfaction that our special relations with these countries are constantly evolving and have risen to a qualitatively new level. Our solidarity and all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries are being expanded and consolidated. The international prestige of Laos is growing. Together with Vietnam and Kampuchea, we have frustrated all attempts by our enemies to drive a wedge between the three nations of Indochina, weaken them and alienate them from the Soviet Union and the socialist community.

We have advanced, jointly with Vietnam and Kampuchea, constructive proposals to promote a dialogue between the Indochina states and members of ASEAN with a view to making Southeast Asia a zone of peace, stability, friendship and cooperation. This would be a contribution to the cause of peace in Asia and the Pacific, and throughout the world.

[Godyna] What could you say about cooperation between our two countries?

[Kaysone Phomvihane] Since the first days of our revolution and through all the years of our people's grim and heroic struggle against a cruel aggressor possessing vastly superior forces the Soviet Union has constantly rendered us powerful support and immense and effective assistance. After the formation of the Lao People's Democratic republic, our ties have been developing in various fields. The Soviet Union is helping us to build the material and technical foundations of socialism. Today installations that have become symbols of Lao-Soviet friendship are to be seen everywhere in our country. They include the bridges over the Ngum and (Kading) Rivers, radio and TV stations, a hospital, and a polytechnic. Specialists and skilled workers for Laos are being trained in the Soviet Union. Several thousand of them have already returned and are now engaged in constructive labour. Soviet specialists share their rich experience with us. All this is vital to strengthen the defences of our country, an outpost of socialism in Southeast Asia, to ensure our economic development and the gradual improvement of people's welfare. I take this opportunity to express once again our profound and sincere gratitude to the CPSU, the Soviet Government and the fraternal people of your country for their invaluable internationalist assistance.

We shall continue to follow the foreign policy course charted by the 3rd LPRP Congress, consolidate unity and multiform cooperation with the great Soviet Union and other socialist states. We shall spare no effort to promote Lao-Soviet friendship and fruitful bilateral cooperation for the good of our peoples, in the name of peace and socialism.

CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENTS SUPPORTS ASIA-PACIFIC PROPOSALS

LD021419 Moscow TASS in English 1237 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] Phnom Penh May 2 TASS -- The Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, the whole Kampuchean people are welcoming and expressing full support for the Soviet Government's statement on questions of ensuring peace and security in Asia and the Pacific. This is pointed out in a statement issued here by the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

The Soviet Union's proposals aimed at improving the atmosphere in the Asian-Pacific region, at developing equitable cooperation open to all, the statement says, fully accord with the Kampuchean people's interests. The Kampuchean people who went through the trials of the war against colonialism and United States imperialism, the horrors of the Pol Pot genocide regime, permanently declare for preserving peace, for developing relations of friendship and cooperation with the neighbour countries and other states of the world.

The stand spelled out in the Soviet Government's statement is identical with the foreign policy principles of People's Kampuchea, which considers dialogue to be the only right way to resolve the problems around Kampuchea and problems of the region as a whole. The People's Republic of Kampuchea favours Southeast Asia turning into a zone of peace, stability and cooperation.

REPORTAGE ON GDR DEFENSE MINISTER'S VISIT

Further on Talks With Sokolov

LD052320 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2003 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 5 May (ADN) -- Army General Heinz Kessler, minister of national defense of the GDR and member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, and Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Sokolov, minister of defense of the USSR and candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, met in Moscow today for a friendly talk. During the cordial meeting, they stressed the determination of both Armies to reliably fulfill their tasks in the protection of peace together with the Armed Forces of the other fraternal socialist countries. They paid tribute to the close fighting alliance between the Armed Forces of the GDR and the USSR. It is of great importance to deepen the exchange of experiences in implementing the tasks set by the 11th SED Congress and the 27th CPSU Congress for the reliable defense of peace, to extend cooperation, and constantly to consolidate the brotherhood in arms.

Army Gen Kessler said that the GDR will continue to fulfill its duties in the alliance as a reliable bastion of peace and of socialism at the sensitive dividing line between the two social systems in the heart of Europe.

Marshal Sokolov stressed that the Soviet Union, together with the fraternal socialist countries, will do everything to prevent a violation of the military-strategic balance that guarantees peace, and to protect the work of construction of the peoples of the socialist community against all attacks.

Army Gen Heinz Kessler arrived in Moscow this morning for an official visit of friendship to the USSR. He was warmly welcomed at Sheremetyevo Airport by Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Sokolov, Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov, first deputy minister of defense of the USSR and commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member-states, Army General Aleksey Lizichev, chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy, and other officials.

After his arrival, the GDR defense minister laid wreaths at the Lenin Mausoleum and at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in the Aleksandrovskiy Garden. He was accompanied by Marshal Kulikov. A march-past by an honor guard of the Moscow garrison followed.

Meets Gromyko

LD051928 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1748 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 5 May (TASS) -- The Armies of the Warsaw Pact member-countries are a reliable defense of peace. There is no more powerful force that can obstruct the path of those who are leading things toward unleashing a new war. This was said by A.A. Gromyko, member of the Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, during his talk with Army General Heinz Kessler, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and GDR minister of national defense, who is in the Soviet Union on a friendly visit. The guest from the fraternal country, accompanied by GDR Ambassador to the USSR Egon Winkelmann, was received in the Kremlin today. Taking part in the discussion of questions of mutual interest from the Soviet side were: S.L. Sokolov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, USSR minister of defense and marshal of the Soviet Union; and V.G. Kulikov, USSR first deputy minister of defense, commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact and marshal of the Soviet Union.

During the conversation, both sides noted with profound satisfaction that relations between the USSR and the GDR have a strong foundation -- the ideas of Marxism-Leninism and many years of friendship and cooperation. It was stressed that participation in the work of the 27th CPSU Congress by an SED delegation led by E. Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee, and the arrival in Berlin for the 11th SED Congress of a Soviet delegation led by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, had great significance for the further all-round development of ties between the two countries.

Our congresses, A.A. Gromyko said, stretched out hands to each other on behalf of our parties and, if we are to look for the basic thing in this mutual action, it is that both our countries stand firmly for peace both in Europe and throughout the world.

The congresses of the fraternal parties, as was noted during the conversation, showed the loyalty of the CPSU and the SED to the great principles of socialist internationalism, the ideals of brotherhood of our peoples.

A.A. Gromyko and H. Kessler agreed that the friendship linking our countries is a powerful and constantly functioning factor in their dynamic development. It was specially emphasized that cooperation between the Soviet Union and the GDR covers all areas, including the military; it is constantly gaining strength from year to year.

Questions of the military-political situation in central Europe and in the world as a whole were dealt with. The attention of the GDR side was drawn to the fact that the broad peace initiatives advanced by the Soviet Union can become a reliable basis for slowing down the arms race, for universal disarmament, and for the creation of a system of interstate relations such as would exclude war forever from the life of man.

The new peace proposals advanced by M.S. Gorbachev in his speech at the congress in Berlin are of extraordinarily great importance for European security.

Speaking about the reasons for the deterioration in the international situation, A.A. Gromyko said that the entire responsibility for actions directed at undermining the constructive spirit of the Geneva meeting lies fairly and squarely on the Washington administration. The U.S. gangsterlike action against Libya is evidence of this; there can be no justification for the U.S. aggression. Proof of this is also to be found in the policy of state terrorism and the constant U.S. interference in the internal affairs of Nicaragua and other countries in Central America. This is also indicated by the policy of neoglobalism that the U.S. President is now proclaiming during his trip to the Far East. The policy of neoglobalism entails making use of any event in the world that U.S. ruling circles find disagreeable, to act just as Washington sees fit, right up to the use of armed force against other states and peoples. No conqueror in the past has ever declared such a policy. Neoglobalism is the most aggressive policy that has ever existed on earth.

Therefore, the countries of the Warsaw Pact act rightly when they strengthen their defensive armed forces. Both sides confirmed their loyalty to this course which was heard from the rostrum of the party congresses in Moscow and Berlin.

H. Kessler talked about labor enthusiasm and political activity in the GDR which is felt everywhere in his country. At present the Republic's population is preparing for an important new political event -- elections to the GDR People's Chamber, which will be held 8 June.

We are strengthening fraternal alliances with the Armies of the Warsaw Pact member-countries, especially with the Soviet Army, the GDR minister of national defense said. We see in the servicemen of the group of Soviet troops the sons of those who freed the German people from fascism, class brothers, brothers-in-arms, who are defending us from the intrigues of any aggressor. The meeting took place in a cordial atmosphere, which is typical of the relations of firm alliance between the USSR and the GDR.

IZVESTIYA REPORTS ZIMYANIN DEPARTURE FOR POLAND

PM060907 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 May 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS reports: "On Official Visit"]

[Text] A USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by M.V. Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet's of Nationalities Foreign Affairs Commission, left Moscow for Warsaw on 5 May on an official visit at the invitation of the Polish Sejm. The delegation includes Deputies I.S. Belousov, R.G. Gamzatov, N.V. Orlova, A.P. Romodanov, A.I. Sorokin, and L.K. Shepetis.

At the airport the delegation was seen off by V.A. Medvedev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; B. Yazkuliyeu, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; L.N. Tolkunov and A.E. Voss chairmen of the USSR Supreme Soviet's Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities, respectively; USSR Supreme Soviet Deputy L.P. Shurygina; G. Kh. Shakhnazarov, CPSU Central Committee deputy section chief; V.P. Loginov, USSR deputy foreign minister; V.G. Vysotin, chief of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium International Relations Department, and other officials. W. Natorf, Polish ambassador to the USSR, was among the send-off party.

Confers With Malinowski

LD052051 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] A delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet, headed by Comrade Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, arrived in Warsaw from Moscow today on an official, friendly visit at the invitation of the Sejm of the Polish People's Republic. At the airport in Warsaw the delegation was met by Malinowski, marshal of the Sejm of the Polish People's Republic, and by other officials.

A meeting took place between the Soviet delegation and Malinowski. The sides stressed that the relations of fraternal friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the PPR, including those on parliamentary lines, will continue to develop and strengthen in the interests of the peoples of both countries and the cause of peace and socialism.

The conversation was held in an atmosphere of cordiality and complete mutual understanding. The Soviet delegation today laid wreaths at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and at the cemetery-mausoleum to Soviet servicemen in Warsaw.

Further Reportage

For coverage of the visit to Poland by a Supreme Soviet delegation led by Mikhail Zimyanin, CPSU Central Committee secretary and deputy chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of nationalities of the Supreme Soviet, including his talks with Roman Malinowski, Sejm speaker, see the Poland section of the 6 May Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

YELTSIN GIVES FRG TV FURTHER DETAILS ON CHERNOBYL

DW051816 Mainz ZDF Television Network in German 1700 GMT 5 May 86

[Report on interview with Boris Yeltsin, candidate member of the CPSU Politburo, by unidentified correspondent; date and place not given]

[Text] How tight is Chernobyl now what about safety there how much radioactivity continues to escape from there?

Yeltsin said there is no longer any nuclear reaction. However, there is certain residue in the immediate environment of the reactor. Every hour some 100 roentgen of radioactive radiation is still emitted into the environment of the spot of the accident, he said.

The radiation that normally exists in nature amounts to 10 microroentgen per hour. Yeltsin continues to state that measures are being taken to decontaminate the soil in a surrounding area of 20-30 km. Life is proceeding normally outside of that zone. The peasants are cultivating their fields; they are not taking any pills.

Asked what happened to the inhabitants of the area directly surrounding Chernobyl, Yeltsin said: All people have been evacuated from that area. Special military units have begun to decontaminate the earth with special equipment. They are gradually approaching the reactor building and, very slowly, the inhabitants will be able to return to that area as well.

Visits Thaelmann Museum

LD051519 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] The stay in Hamburg of a CPSU delegation led by Comrade Yeltsin, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom, is continuing.

The delegation has been taking part in the eighth Congress of the German Communist Party. Today, the CPSU delegation visited the house-museum of Ernst Thaelmann, which is in the working district of Hamburg, Eppendorf. Wreaths and flowers were laid at a bust of Ernst Thaelmann and an entry was made in the book for honored guests. Today also, the CPSU delegation visited the Hamburg Rathaus where it was received by the first mayor of the city Klaus von Dohnanyi.

FRG SUMMONS USSR ENVOY OVER 'SECRECY' ON DAMAGE

LD051525 Hamburg DPA in German 1407 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] Bonn, 5 May (DPA) -- The Foreign Ministry sent doctors with Geiger counters to German Embassies in the Warsaw Pact countries which might be contaminated. However, so far no contamination has been reported. Vladislav Teretskov, Soviet charge d'affaires in Bonn, was summoned for the third time to the Foreign Ministry on Monday afternoon, in order to ascertain in yet another talk the extent of the danger.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman emphasized that the Soviet diplomat was questioned "most emphatically." This phrase makes clear the pent-up anger which diplomatic circles have expressed, also in talks with journalists, about the continuing secrecy exercised by the Soviets. In this connection Bonn praised the good and cooperative exchange of data with Hungary.

REPORTAGE ON UK NUCLEAR ACCIDENTS, PROBLEMS

Heysham Shuts Down Reactor

LD052021 Moscow TASS in English 2021 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] London May 5 TASS -- The authorities in Lancashire county today had to shut down one of the two reactors at the Heysham nuclear power station after a fire emergency. The fire broke out in one of the power units close to the reactor.

According to the Central Electricity Generating Board, there has been no leak of radioactivity. No human casualties are reported. Its statement said, however, that the concrete causes of the fire, as well as the scope of the damage were not as yet determined.

Sellafield Viewed

LD022208 Moscow TASS in English 1842 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] London May 2 TASS -- More than 25 years passed before the British and the international public learnt about the consequences of a major accident at the Sellafield nuclear processing plant. In defiance of the demands made by atomic energy experts, British authorities did everything to conceal the scale of the accident as a result of which 13 people died and more than 260 people were doomed to suffer from serious ailments caused by radioactive contamination.

Reporting this, the London-based GUARDIAN newspaper emphasized that this is only one of the examples of London's "frankness" and "wide-scale publicity" when the matter at hand is accidents of that kind on British territory. Residents of the coastline areas of Cumbria where Sellafield nuclear processing facility (then called Windscale) is situated are certain to remember the events of November 11, 1957 for long. On that day it was officially announced that a certain amount of radioactive substances had blown out to sea and that it did not present "any hazard to the public."

The statement came three days after the accident. At the time pollution of the adjacent areas was at its most intense, the authorities did not sound off alarms, GUARDIAN recalled. Only 26 years later the national radiation protection board reported data about hundreds of cases of fatal diseases caused by that "insignificant leak".

Since then "nuclear alarms" went off at that plant nearly 300 times. On four occasions -- in the first three months of this year.

Atomic energy agencies are mainly concerned with keeping a shroud of secrecy over potential consequences of environmental pollution, not with real measures to prevent it, GUARDIAN said.

UK Refuses To Close Plant

LD052324 Moscow World Service in English 2100 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] The British Government has been refusing to shut down, if only on a temporary basis, the Sellafield nuclear processing plant in the northwest of England, which has been contaminating the local environment and the nearby seawaters with radiation. It is believed the Irish Sea has become one of the most contaminated areas.

On Sunday, the newspaper OBSERVER reported a leak of radioactive gas from the nuclear power plant at Dungeness which occurred a month ago. The authorities have tried to conceal this accident.

March 86 Accident Reviewed

LD040734 Moscow TASS in English 0722 GMT 4 May 86

[Text] London May 4 TASS -- A serious accident took place at a British nuclear power station in Kent County on March 31, 1986, resulting in the discharge of radioactive gas into the atmosphere, the newspaper OBSERVER reported today.

As the second reactor's new gas cooling equipment was being installed there on that day, it said, a blast occurred, followed by a radioactive gas leak.

Luckily, THE OBSERVER remarked, there were no casualties but the country's central energy board threw a wall of silence around the accident and agreed to provide a certain amount of information only after repeated and persistent requests.

The question of the reliability of the equipment used was never raised, the paper said.

FRENCH PAPER CITED ON ANTI-SOVIETISM OVER CHERNOBYL

PM031907 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 May 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Article in L'HUMANITE"]

[Text] The French newspaper L'HUMANITE has sharply criticized the anti-Soviet campaign stirred up by the French mass media in connection with the accident at Chernobyl nuclear power station. The incident at Chernobyl has evoked irrepressible joy among anti-Soviets, the newspaper observes. For them the accident has been a real godsend. For 3 days now the press organs have been vying with each other in describing the "horrors" which are occurring in the Soviet Union. The newspapers, trying to outdo each other, are expatiating on the Soviet Union's "technical backwardness," and on the "barbarity of the system." At the same time, objective French specialists are totally overturning these fabrications. The West is sending up a hue and cry about the "inadequacy of the information" which is forthcoming from the Soviet Union regarding the incident. However, even the most detailed information will not satisfy the press "figures." They preach not the cult of facts but are filled with fierce hatred for socialism. Thus, taking advantage of the occasion, LIBERATION has cast doubt on the whole spectrum of the Soviet Union's proposals on reducing nuclear arms.

SPANISH COMMUNISTS VISIT UKRAINE 19-27 APRIL

LD281859 Moscow TASS in English 1821 GMT 28 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 28 TASS -- In line with the plan of relations between the CPSU and the Communist Party of the Peoples of Spain, a party delegation headed by Jose Serradell stayed in the USSR from April 19 to 27 to study experience of organizational and party work of the CPSU.

Spanish comrades were received at the Department of Organizational and Party Work and the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee.

The delegation made a trip to the Ukrainian Republic, was received at the Central Committee of the republic's Communist Party and at district committees of the Ukrainian Communist Party, visited an industrial enterprise, state farm, higher educational establishment, familiarized itself with the work of party organizations on fulfilling the decisions made by the 27th CPSU Congress and with the life of Soviet working people.

Spanish comrades displayed great interest in the progress of implementing the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress, underlining their huge international importance in the struggle for peace and social progress.

PRAVDA CITED ON RESIGNATION OF NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT

LD041658 Moscow TASS in English 0753 GMT 4 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 4 TASS -- Commenting today on the resignation of the Willoch cabinet in Norway, the newspaper "PRAVDA" said:

"The defeat of the bourgeois coalition effectively means a crisis in the right-wing parties' social and economic policies and indicates their inability to resolve the complex financial and economic problems of present-day Norway, which have been dramatically aggravated by the falling prices of oil, the treasury's main source of revenue.

"Banking on a steady advancement of the oil industry as the prime condition of Norway's prosperity has been too heavy, leading to serious structural change in the economy, in particular the curtailment of production in a whole number of industries, the folding up of many small and medium-sized firms, and growing unemployment."

The sharp decrease in oil prices has halved Norway's revenue since the start of this year, casting doubt on the commercial expediency of tapping many off-shore deposits. The storm-clouds of a crisis have begun overcasting the Norwegian skyline. One of the first claps of thunder has come with a three-week bitter labor conflict in April, which has involved over 100,000 working people demanding higher pay and a shorter working week.

The sharp clash on the labor market has made it still clearer that the social and economic course of the Willoch government has served the interests of big business.

The Willoch cabinet, washing its hands, has resigned, leaving behind a heap of unresolved problems, amid an economic situation which is extremely unfavourable to the country. The Norwegian Labour Party (Social Democrats), whose leader Gro Harlem Brundtland has been instructed to form a new cabinet, is in for difficult times, the more so as it can be only a question of forming a left-wing minority government.

Ivanov Comments

PM021543 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 May 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Dispatch by our correspondent N. Ivanov: "The Denouement Has Come"]

[Text] Oslo -- We have won the elections but lost the struggle for power. G. Harlem Brundtland said in the fall. Commenting on this statement by the leader of the Norwegian Social Democrats, observers wrote that she was clearly in a hurry to admit her defeat in the struggle for ministerial posts.

The events of the last few days have confirmed this. The head of the bourgeois government coalition, K. Willoch, was forced to announce the resignation of his government. After a 5-year break the Social Democrats once again have an opportunity to return to power.

It must be said that throughout the 8 months that have elapsed since the parliamentary elections, the leaders of the Norwegian Labor Party have not given up hopes of forming their own cabinet. The task did not seem an abstract one, as the bourgeois coalition's majority amounted to just one seat. This correlation in the Storting (parliament) was unstable. The discussion of any issue threatened to result in the resignation of K. Willoch's government.

Let me remind you that the fall election campaign brought success to the Social Democrats and seriously undermined the positions of the government coalition. All three parties incorporated in K. Willoch's cabinet -- the Conservative Party, the Center Party, and the Christian Peoples Party -- lost some of their seats. The shaky balance between the opposition and the government could at any moment be upset by Carl Hagen, leader of the right-wing Progress Party. The newspaper AFTENPOSTEN pointed out that the fate of K. Willoch's cabinet would be decided by the two deputies of this party.

This is what happened when the 1986 budget was discussed. Two days before the decisive vote, Hagen softened the tone of his demands and joined the Conservative team. This time the situation turned out differently. Not only opposition leader G. Harlem Brundtland, but also Prime Minister K. Willoch looked guardedly in the direction of the Progress Party deputies, trying to guess how they would react to the "Easter Package," as the measures proposed by the government were known. These measures, according to calculations by the minister of finance, would make it possible to patch up the budget deficit of approximately 1.4 billion krona. The new attempt by the bourgeois cabinet to tighten the belt still further aroused sharp criticism not only among representatives of the opposition but also with some partners in the coalition. Under these conditions Carl Hagen had no other choice than to vote against the "Easter Package." K. Willoch announced his cabinet's resignation, enabling G. Harlem Brundtland, chairwoman of the Norwegian Labor Party, to resume the post of Norwegian Prime Minister after a 5-year interval.

It cannot be said that this turnabout was unexpected. The bourgeois coalition clearly failed to justify the hopes of its voters. Oil had made Norway richer but not the Norwegians. In the words of the Norwegian Labor Party leader, the rich had become richer, and the poor poorer. The Conservatives made significant cuts in appropriations for social needs, having set the aim of encouraging capital. Sharp criticism was also aroused by K. Willoch's foreign policy course, Willoch having earned the reputation of "Washington's most assiduous pupil." This was clearly apparent during the last election campaign, when the Høyre Conservative Party suffered serious defeat.

However, the Social Democrats are not in any hurry to take the reins of government into their own hands. The Norwegian Labor Party chairwoman has not yet given a formal answer to the offer to form a new cabinet. Local observers point out that G. Harlem Brundtland's hesitation is caused by the complex parliamentary situation. After all, the correlation of forces in the Storting has not changed, the only difference is that it is not the ruling coalition but the opposition, which will now have a one-seat majority.

ANGOLAN PRESIDENT DOS SANTOS ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

Leaders Welcome

LD060851 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0730 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA]-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, arrived in Moscow today on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the Soviet Government.

At the airport, he was met at the aircraft steps by Comrade Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Comrade Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs; Comrade Sokolov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and minister of defense of the USSR; Comrade Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; and other officials. The visitor was met by representatives of the working people of Moscow.

The state flags of the People's Republic of Angola and the USSR were raised at the airport. An honor guard of the three services of the Armed Forces of the USSR, the ground troops, the Air Force and the Navy, was drawn up on the air field. The orchestra played the national anthems of the two countries. Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko and Jose Eduardo dos Santos inspected the Soviet servicemen. The solemn ceremony ended with a parade by the honor guard.

A convoy of vehicles, accompanied by a motorcycle escort of honor, set off from the airport from the Kremlin.

Gorbachev Receives

LD060829 Moscow TASS in English 0747 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 6 TASS -- Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Workers Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, was today welcomed in a formal ceremony in the St. George Hall of the Kremlin by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The ceremony was attended by Andrey Gromyko, a member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Eduard Shevardnadze, a member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, and other officials.

Jose Eduardo dos Santos arrived in Moscow today on an official visit of friendship at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Soviet Government.

Talks Begin

LD060929 Moscow TASS in English 0902 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 6 TASS -- Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, began a conversation in the Kremlin today with Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Workers' Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola.

Jose Eduardo dos Santos arrived in Moscow earlier today on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Soviet Government.

MOZAMBICAN PARTY DELEGATION'S VISIT DESCRIBED

LD021501 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] A Mozambican party delegation, led by Matsinhe, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee, secretary of the Control Committee of the Central Committee of the Frelimo Party, visited our country 22 April-2 May at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee. The delegation was received by Solomentsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the party control committee of the CPSU Central Committee.

The comrades from Mozambique visited the Georgian SSR, Leningrad, and Odessa. They held talks at the Central Committee of the Georgian Communist Party, the Odessa obkom of the Communist Party of Ukraine, and in local party organizations. They acquainted themselves with the work of the organs of party and people's control and visited a number of enterprises. Members of the Mozambique delegation noted the great international significance of the 27th CPSU Congress and praised the internationalist aid of the USSR to People's Mozambique. They also advocated a strengthening of Soviet-Mozambican cooperation.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS ON CHERNOBYL ACCIDENT REPORTED

PRAVDA Reports Details

PM052051 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 May First Edition p 6

[Special correspondents V. Gubarev and M. Odinets report: "The Station and Around It; Our Special Correspondents Report From the Region of the Chernobyl AES"]

[Text] Pripyat looks strange and unusual from the helicopter. Snow-white multistory buildings, broad avenues, parks, stadiums, and playgrounds alongside kindergartens and stores... Just a few days ago 25,000 power workers, building workers, chemical industry workers, and river workers lived and worked here. But now the city is empty. There is not a single person on the streets and no lights in the windows at night. And only occasionally does a special truck appear on the streets -- the radiation monitoring service... Sometimes the quiet of the riverside settlement is broken by the noise of engines -- the next shift being taken to the Atomic Emission Spectroscopy [AES]:. Three AES reactor units need supervision, and specialists are monitoring the station's reactors, which have now been shut down [v rezhim konservatsii].

But the fourth reactor unit...

An explosion blew the roof off the reactor, structures collapsed over it, and a fire broke out. This happened at night...

At the alarm signal from the fourth power unit Lieutenants B. Pravik and V. Kibenok, chiefs of the AES fire crews, quickly roused their firefighters. After the explosion the roof of the machine hall had caught fire, and they focused their efforts on putting out the fire. They fought the fire at a height of 30 meters [ego sbivali na vysote v tridtsat metrov]. The firefighters' boots stuck in the bitumen melted by the high temperature and it was difficult to breathe because of the smoke and heat, but the courageous heroes fought bravely. Major Leonid Telyatnikov, who efficiently organized work to put out the fire, set an example of selflessness and of fulfillment of his official duty. Specialists will later note that the firefighters' feat considerably limited the scale of the damage.

Nevertheless, what happened is something that has always been most feared by physicists: The reactor's armor-plated core was exposed. Some radioactivity was released upward and then a fire began inside. Furthermore, it was particularly difficult to extinguish it because neither water nor chemical means could be used -- the high temperature would instantly vaporize them and send them into the atmosphere. A complex and unusually difficult situation had been created.

Let us note straightaway that to the honor of the thousands of people who work at the AES and live alongside it there was no panic, although there were some scaremongers. However, the disaster united people so much that they quickly established order themselves.

As is well known, some foreign agencies and all manner of radio stations tried to instill panic by reporting the deaths of thousands of people, a nuclear explosion, and the general irradiation of virtually all the European part of the country and neighboring countries. And it is here that those reports are being received with surprise, to put it mildly... What can be more shameful than reveling in the disaster that has occurred?

In actual fact measures to ensure the population's safety and monitor events were taken very quickly.

Near the confluence of the Uzh River and the Pripyat River stands the one-story Chernobyl Meteorological Station building. Eight times a day six of its staffers check the air, analyze soil moisture, and observe cloud movements... Early that Saturday morning station chief Z.F. Kordyk herself took down the instrument readings. One apparatus showed increased radioactivity. A sense of alarm gripped Zinaida Fedorovna: Something has gone wrong at the AES, she thought, as she sent the regular telegram with the meter readings to the republic's hydrometeorological center.

But by that time the evacuation of the Chernobyl AES settlement had already begun. It was being conducted in a strict and well-organized way, under the guidance of soviet and party organizations. Suffice it to say that it took just 4 hours to assemble the population of the power station settlement and ship them out. When they learned in Kiev about the disaster on the Pripyat, many people went to their enterprises to offer their assistance even though it was a Saturday. Dozens of drivers from Motor Vehicle Transport Station [ATP] 09124 lined up outside the enterprise before the start of work. After it was announced that work involving the transportation of the population out of the Chernobyl AES zone had to be done, it was proposed that those drivers who did not want to or could not go should take a step forward. Not one of them moved. They took 80 vehicles into the settlement and worked unceasingly. V. Brovarnyy, a Communist and holder of the Order of Labor Glory, Komsomol member B. Levanda, and driver S. Drozdnyk, who has submitted his application to join the party -- all of them drivers of Kiev motor vehicle transport organizations -- have earned the gratitude of the AES settlement's population. The tireless work of M. Sapiton, chief of the Pripyat ATP 31015, merits all respect.

Tens of thousands of residents were evacuated from the area of the AES within a short space of time. They were transported to rayons neighboring Chernobyl'skiy Rayon, where accommodation, domestic and trade services, and medical services were arranged for them. G. Goncharuk, a secretary of Ivankovskiy Party Raykom, told us that the evacuees had met everywhere with concern and heartfelt sympathy. In the village of Blidcha, Anastasiya Yakovlevna Leshchenko, a pensioner with a family of 5, took in 10 people from Chernobyl. I. Kovalenko, a member of the "Radyanska Ukraina" Kolkhoz from this same village, gave shelter to seven people. The residents of Ivankovskiy Rayon are sharing everything with their neighbors, helping them to get through a difficult time.

The villages of Borodyanskiy Rayon accepted more than 5,000 Chernobyl evacuees. Everywhere the people have been accommodated solicitously and have been provided with essentials. The allocation principle is thus: The collective of a Chernobyl'skiy Rayon farm is being housed in its entirety in a Borodyanskiy Rayon farm. For example, the "Komsomolets Polesya" Kolkhoz has been temporarily accommodated on the "Zarya" Kolkhoz in the village of Zagaltsy. The Chernobyl residents have been received compassionately by the "Maydanovka" Sovkhoz, the "Peremoga" Kolkhoz, and all the remaining farms. People are being allocated accommodation in the apartments of village soviet deputies. These latter are fixing up the children in schools; the children of the new arrivals are being taught in the first shift, while the local schoolchildren are attending the second shift. The evacuees are assisting the local residents with the farm work. Moreover, Borodyanskiy Rayon is carrying out its corn and flax sowing without falling behind schedule; the farmstead workers have made up the slight lag that had occurred, and now the stockraisers here are ahead of schedule compared to this time last year.

Kiev's doctors responded solicitously to the misfortune which has occurred in the Chernobyl region. On that last Saturday in April many of them were at their own city hospitals and polyclinics in order to offer their personal assistance to the casualties. Doctors at the city's Oktyabrskaya Hospital N. Putseva, L. Dubinskaya, and L. Sirotinskaya effectively and swiftly established their own section at the site of the calamity.

The medical workers of the 25th hospital deserve to be spoken well of. Many of them left Kiev regardless [v chem byli], with time only to say: "Tell my family and friends I will be back soon." We have been told that V. Melnik, a doctor, and V. Kiselev and A. Novikov, doctor's assistants, deserve the kindest words for their selfless labor on Chernobyl territory...

Despite all the complexity of the situation prevailing in connection with the accident at the fourth power unit in the AES settlement and the nearby villages, order prevailed throughout and continues to prevail. This has been maintained above all by the population itself and the Komsomol volunteers. Traffic movement along the roads has also proceeded and continues to proceed in a strict and organized way. V. Kucherenko and A. Stelmakh, workers in the AES settlement's militia department, have been operating efficiently and promptly in the difficult situation. The republic Ministry of Internal Affairs has rated highly the courage and bravery of staffers in the Poleskiy, Chernobylskiy, and Ivankovskiy Rayon militia departments.

Work to neutralize [po likvidatsii] the accident is now continuing at the AES. Shifts headed by Brois Baranov, Vladimir Ignatenko, Nikolay Bekeshko, and Gennadiy Dik are working on the cooling and shutting down of reactor units one, two, and three [dlya obespecheniya paskholazhivaniya blokov Nos 1, 2, 3 i ikh konservatsii], and also on liquidating the consequences of the accident at reactor unit No four. The shift responsible for thermal and underground infrastructures [smena teplovykh i podzemnykh kommunkatsiy] and its chief, Nikolay Primak, are working in the most difficult conditions. True courage and heroism is being shown by Vladimir Kozlikin and Vladimir Ivanchik, fitters from the fitters shop, and Nikolay Gritsenko, senior foreman in the electrical shop in charge of restoring the electrical supply circuit.

It is now the second week since the accident. The situation remains complex. The main thing, however, is that the situation is being monitored [kontrolirovatsya] not only near the AES but in neighboring regions. The level of radiation has decreased. Careful monitoring [kontrol] of the environment is being carried out in Kiev, Chernigov, and other major cities and smaller settlements. Additional measures to eliminate the effects of the accident have been taken.

Council of Ministers Statement

LD051555 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1527 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] From the USSR Council of Ministers: A complex of measures for removing the consequences of the accident continued to be implemented at the Chernobyl AES on 4 May.

Decontamination of the territory around the fourth set of the AES is being carried out. The discharge of radioactive substances continues to decrease. Work has been set in motion to erect dykes along the Pripet River near the AES in order to prevent the possibility of its being polluted.

The radiation situation on the territories of the Ukraine and Belorussia is stabilizing, with a trend toward improvement. Necessary health and hygiene, and treatment and preventive measures are being carried out in these areas. The population that has been evacuated from a 30-km zone around the AES is being temporarily provided with work at other enterprises, construction sites, kolkhozes, and sovkhoses.

IAEA Director Arrives in Moscow

LD051407 Moscow TASS in English 1359 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 5 TASS -- Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Hans Blix arrived today in Moscow at the Soviet Government's invitation.

He was met at the airport by Deputy Chairman of the USSR State Committee for the Utilisation of Atomic Energy B.A. Semenov, other officials.

Kovalev Meets With IAEA Director

LD061037 Moscow TASS in English 1019 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 6 TASS -- A.G. Kovalev, a first deputy foreign minister of the USSR, received in the Soviet Foreign Ministry today Hans Blix, director-general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Taking part in the conversation, which was of a businesslike nature, also were L.V. Konstantinov of the USSR, a deputy director-general of the IAEA, Morris Rosen of the United States, director of the Nuclear Safety Department of the IAEA, and V.F. Petrovskiy, a member of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Collegium.

U.S. Radiology Expert Arrives

PM051409 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 May 86 Morning Edition p 2

[Text] In connection with the accident at the Chernobyl atomic power station, expressions of sympathy and offers of help addressed to the Soviet Government are being received from foreign governments, various organizations, private companies, and individual citizens.

TASS is authorized to announce that the Soviet Government expresses its genuine gratitude to all who have expressed their sympathy, their due understanding of what happened, and have offered their assistance and help. At the present time, the main demands arising in eliminating the consequences of the accident are being satisfied by our own capabilities. Naturally, when assistance offered with good intentions may turn out to be useful, it will be accepted with gratitude. In particular, the famous U.S. specialist on radiology, Dr R. Gale has already arrived in the Soviet Union for consultations. The general director of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) H. Blix is arriving in Moscow at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

It must be regretted, however, that against this broad background of sympathy and understanding, certain circles are attempting to use what has happened for unseemly political purposes. Rumors and fabrications running counter to the elementary norms of morality have been put into propaganda circulation. For example, fables are being put out about thousands killed, panic among the population, and so forth. The people engaged in this are chiefly those who cannot accept the very spirit of trust and detente and for whom the whipping up of enmity between peoples is a customary affair. Every normal person knows that gloating at other people's misfortunes is an unseemly business.

As far as the Chernobyl accident is concerned, work is continuing at the station and in the surrounding area to put right its consequences and to give aid to those who suffered.

The operational staff at the station are reliably monitoring the condition of the three other reactor installations, which have been shut down, and the reactor cooling systems.

Cleanup Work Continuing

LD051729 Moscow World Service in English 1310 GMT 5 May 86

[From the "News and Views" program]

[Excerpts] We start the issue with a report about the situation in the area of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant where an accident with one nuclear reactor occurred several days ago.

Work continues on the site of the plant, situated 130 km north of Kiev, to eliminate the consequences of the accident. The Soviet national television network carried a report from the area. The sequences were shot from a helicopter. One could clearly see that the plant building was only slightly damaged. Only one of the plant's four generator units had been affected. All the production buildings and the settlements of the plant workers, along with other residents who have been evacuated, as well as the power transmission lines, are intact. Traffic continues along a nearby highway. Specialized units are clearing the polluted sites next to the plant's territory. On 2 May a tour of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant area was made by the Soviet Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov and a Central Committee secretary of the Communist Party, Yegor Ligachev. It was noted that the work to remove the consequences of the accident is well organized. A decision was taken on additional measures to speed up the work. According to the latest data the level of radiation at the power plant and near it has dropped from one-third to one-half of what it was.

The Soviet Government has been getting from abroad, from various organizations, private companies and individuals, expressions of sympathy and offers of help.

The Soviet Government has informed a number of neighboring European states and international organizations of the scale of the accident and of the work to remove its aftereffects. Specialists, including Western ones, speak positively about the actions taken by the Soviet salvage services to localize the source of radioactive contamination. People understand that this is a misfortune, the first of its kind in the entire more than 30-year-old record of operation of nuclear power plants in the Soviet Union.

Yes indeed, tales about the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant are spread by those who do not accept the very spirit of trust and easing of tension, who regard inciting enmity among the nations as something routine.

TV Interviews Kievans

LD051917 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1700 GMT on 5 May 1986 in its "Vremya" newscast carries a report by Mikhail Krutov and unidentified special correspondents on life during and following the Chernobyl incident.

The "Vremya" anchorman begins by saying: "Our special correspondents report from areas in the Ukraine and in Belorussia situated near Chernobyl.

"In the south of Gomel Oblast between the Dnepr and Pripet Rivers, basic field work has been completed and potato planting is now under way on the last hectares." A video report from a state farm on front-ranking sovkhoz shows potato planting operations. As video shows cows grazing, the announcer continues: "The task is being set to produce great quantities of milk at this very time."

A video report follows from Vatutin Sovkhoz, 40 km north of Kiev in Uzhgorodskiy Rayon, which supplies Kiev with milk and vegetables. "On the farm, on the plantations, and in the fields, just everywhere today we saw normal working. The farm is going along in its normal labor rhythm. The only thing unusual is perhaps the radioactivity and chemical monitoring stations. They are constantly monitoring the environment and all the produce that is being dispatched to the consumers. And so far there has been nothing in excess of the permitted norms registered," -- says the correspondent, as video shows people picking what looks like spring onions, then a man with a Geiger counter checking boxes of spring onions.

The report continues with a video interview of the farm director who says that everyone is working in shock fashion and dispatching lots of vegetables to Kiev. He continues: "Everyone understands the need to work very well right now in order for everyone at his work place to show models of shock labor. The point is that of course we all understand that the accident that took place at Chernobyl AES has caused losses to the state, and so our task now is to make up for these losses."

Aleksandr Krutov then begins his video report from the streets of Kiev, where people are shown comporting themselves in the usual way:

"Our television crew came to Kiev this morning early. We have called during the day at many places, enterprises, and institutes. We have traveled on buses and on the Kiev subway. Those in charge of the Velogonka Mira Bicycle race invited us to look at the course. The Velogonka Mira bike race opens tomorrow, as you know, and goes on in Kiev for 4 days. The four stages will be held here. "We have talked to many people. Well, what impression have we recieved? The mood I would say is calm and normal. What is more, let us ask the people here themselves. Excuse me. We have a question for you. We are from the "Vremya" program. How was your day at work today?"

A young man says, "I had a good day at work. We just got on with our work."

Krutov asks what the young man thinks about Western rumors of panic in Kiev. He replies that all is calm and "there is no panic." A woman in the background agrees that all is calm and people are at work as usual.

Krutov stops another passerby saying: "Excuse me please. Can I ask you a question. Voices in the West are going on and on interminably about panic in Kiev, in your oblast here."

The man replies: "You know there is probably no panic, but we are worried about it too."

Kutov next stops a young couple with a young child in a stroller. The woman says that she works in a kindergarten. Krutov asks her: "Tell me please. What sort of mood are you in?"

The woman replies: "A wonderful mood. We like Kiev very much. We are not from around here actually. We are having a walk around and looking at the squares. We are just passing through and we really like Kiev."

Krutov goes on to interview a group of bus drivers on the street:

[Krutov] I am from the "Vremya" program. How was your first day back at work after the holiday?

[Bus driver] Well, we all had to work over the holiday to evacuate people from the area around Pripet and Chernobyl. We worked on transporting people out, on evacuating them. In particular we drove people to the Borodyan'skiy Rayon. The organization of the transport was, you could say, well organized. It has to be said that the general management of our transport was not even disrupted.

[Krutov] You are a bus driver?

[Bus driver] Yes I am. I am chief of a (?bus convoy). And yes indeed, everything was well organized in our area. The drivers showed great patriotism with regard to the local population. What was it like on site? Well there was no panic. All was very well organized.

[Krutov] The Western mass media say there were thoudands killed there.

[Another bus driver] No, that is completely not so. Utterly wrong. As a driver I took part literally from the first days of the evacuation of people from the town of Pripet. And that is completely all wrong. All was very organized at a very high level and all the drivers understood perfectly well the task they faced. And all was done at the highest standard to get all the people out.

The first driver then concludes by saying we must all campaign for peace and disarmament and stop arms from going into space.

Kiev Student Gives Assurances

LD022123 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 2 May 86

[Report by correspondent A. Guretskiy with remarks by Kiev student K. Amadou, identified by caption -- date and place not given; recorded]

[Text] Spring and the May holidays add their usual concerns to this busy international rail line, giving people a good reception and creating the best possible conditions for their journey. As we know, there are five all-union tourist itineraries which run through the border town of Brest and its hero-fortress. [video shows the railway station at Brest; view of the outside of the building; station platforms and tracks]

A train has arrived from Kiev. Its passengers include a group of students from Mali who are completing their studies at the faculty of international relations and international law at the University of Kiev. They are on vacation until 6 May and they have decided to make a trip to Berlin. [video shows more scenes in the station; passers-by in city streets]

[Amadou] We live in Kiev and feel nothing. People here are living normally and there is nothing dreadful. We are leaving now but will be back soon. All the things they are saying are lies, that is what I think. [video shows students speaking to Guretskiy out-of-doors]

Tourists Complain at Evacuation

LD021921 Moscow Television Service Service in Russian 1430 GMT 2 May 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast; interviewed tourists speak in English with superimposed Russian translation throughout]

[Text] The Western mass information media are spreading slanderous fabrications concerning the accident at the Chernobyl AES.

[Correspondent] I had a meeting with British tourists outside the Rossiya Hotel during the festive merrymaking. Jim Tweedle, a railway dispatcher from Glasgow, and Ian Smith, a Devon businessman, were on a tour around our country, that was organized by the Thomson Holidays tourist company. They say that their group, which comprised 17 persons, visited Leningrad. Then they visited Novosibirsk and Irkutsk and spent several days at Baykal.

[Jim Tweedle] We had a very fine and pleasant trip, a trip that none of us will forget. Everything was wonderful until we were brought back to Moscow yesterday.

[Correspondent] I asked them the reason for their unexpected return.

[Ian Smith] Suddenly an official representative of Thomson Holidays told us that an atomic explosion has allegedly taken place in the Soviet Union. The city of Kiev has been evacuated. Many people have died and thousands have been injured. We were also told that our lives are in danger and that we must immediately leave Moscow.

[Correspondent] That is not true. The situation in Kiev is normal. People there are also celebrating May Day, just as they are in Moscow.

[Ian Smith] I do not know exactly, but we have been told that special aircraft have been flown here from Britain in order to urgently evacuate British citizens from Moscow and Leningrad.

[Correspondent] What is your view of this?

[Jim Tweedle] I am very grieved. We all are very grieved that we have to leave Moscow. Thousands of Muscovites have now come out into the streets and are celebrating May Day. We can see that there is no danger, as attempts have been made to make us believe.

[Ian Smith] I also asked the Thomson Holiday representatives about this but they were unable to give me a sensible explanation. One gains the impression that it is only Thomson Holidays that is suddenly so concerned and has been exaggerating all this.

[Correspondent] I see, it is a provocation.

[Ian Smith] I am convinced of it.

[Correspondent] The fact that the order to urgently leave our country is dictated by no means out of concern for their health was understood too by many of these foreign tourists, students, and postgraduates who have been urgently dispatched to Sheremetyevo. However, efforts were made to convince them otherwise. [video shows clothes being measured for radioactivity at entrance to aircraft]

There you see how clothes are being demonstratively measured for radioactivity at the entrance to the British aircraft. We were not allowed to take pictures in the aircraft itself. Those who insisted on giving interviews to Soviet television were, of course, allowed to leave the aircraft, but they had to emerge without their shoes on. The fact is that they had been insistently requested to take off their own clothes, and in their place they had been given these suits, thereby creating, by their appearance alone, a sensation when incidentally they descend the aircraft steps in London.

[Unidentified interviewee] I had been studying Slavonic languages in Minsl.

[Correspondent] Why are you leaving?

[Unidentified interviewee] Our embassy has insisted on it, indeed insisted very emphatically.

[Second unidentified interviewee] I have been studying in Kiev. I believe that the accident is being used by the Western press for unseemly ends. All this has very quickly been transformed into plain political propaganda. We are regretful and very ashamed in front of our Soviet friends. I like your country, which I have already visited on five occasions, and I do not want these events to be used to worsen East-West relations.

[Third unidentified interviewee] I was also engaged in research work in Kiev. I objected sharply to the departure. I would like to be in Kiev. Our Soviet friends would not have allowed a threat to our health to be created, or, incidentally, a threat to the health of their children. The children would have been taken away from Kiev if there had been the slightest danger. This is an example of how Western propaganda functions. It was reported that 2,000 people were killed at the AES -- 2,000 and not 2 as was actually the case. [video shows another young lady being interviewed, but an official, presumably British, holds up his indicate that the interviews are at an end]

[Correspondent] As you see, we did not manage to finish our talk, although we were outside the British aircraft.

Foreigners Bemoan Departure

LD022042 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 2 May 86

[Identity of speakers not given]

[Text] Now as you may have heard in the news, the Soviet Union has already officially denied rumors spread by some Western news agencies about the aftermath of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, but even despite these denials the authorities in some Western countries have obliged their citizens -- tourists, students and teachers -- to leave the Soviet Union. We now bring you the recording of interviews with some of these citizens:

[Begin recording] [first woman] I wanted to stay until the last moment. The whole thing is very, very sad. I had difficulty making the decision whether or leave or to stay. These two were very...

[First man, interrupting] I have been studying at a language institute in Minsk, the town of Minsk in Belorussia.

[Reporter] And now you are just in a short time leaving us, yes?

[First man] Yes, we are leaving for England.

[Reporter] What is the reason?

[First man] The reason is that our embassy have asked us to come out.

[Second woman] I come from Kiev where I was also on a language course. It was, I feel it was exploited by the Western press.

[Reporter] Why?

[Second woman] Well, because it became very quickly a political propaganda and we are all very sad to leave. I am ashamed what is done to our Soviet friends, because they have done, you know the utmost to welcome us. I have a great respect for this country, I have been five times in the Soviet Union. I hope this is not going to jeopardize the relationship between East and West.

[Third woman] I didn't want to leave Kiev at all in the first place, I wish I was there now, and I voted very strongly against leaving. I believe that our Soviet hosts are very concerned about our health and I know that you love your children very much and that if there was any danger to health the children would have been evacuated from Kiev. I know that some Western sources apparently indicated that 2,000 people had died in the accident, which we know was...

[Reporter, interrupting] They were Soviets.

[Third woman] Soviets, and there were 2, not 2,000.

[Fourth woman] Because the information from the West was very distressing, but I just don't know where the truth.

[sentence as heard] [end recording]

Muscovites View Western Reaction

LD031755 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 3 May 86

[G. Sedov report from the "Vremya" newcast; persons interviewed in Moscow street identified from captions]

[Text] Moscow. A usual picture of the capital's streets on nonworking days. Today there are more pedestrians on the streets than vehicles. People are not hurrying anywhere, they are enjoying the spring air and the sunshine; they are sharing impressions and discussing the news. One such item of news is the events at the Chernobyl AES and the feeling of bitterness brought about by the unseemly row created by Western propaganda in this connection.

[F.A. Shvets] Of course the reaction is surprising. There was the recent case of the Challenger spacecraft: what grief was felt by our people. Well, the reaction of the United States and its Western allies in connection with the accident at the Chernobyl atomic power station is no doubt what one would expect: When politicians proceed from the position of the worse things are the better they are, then no doubt it would be foolish to expect anything else from them.

[Pensioner A.G. Gaplyuk] Well, an accident, a misfortune, but not on the scale for them to whip up and provoke there. As for the foreigners, yesterday on television we saw that they also expressed the opinion of our Soviet people, they also understand that this is a provocation, that this is being whipped up in order to aggravate relations.

[Military officer V.I. Borodach] In general the imperialists always want to find any grounds for distorting even facts in their own interests with the object of subsequently justifying their drive into space, of taking nuclear weapons out there, and of justifying precisely that new level in their desire for nuclear arms -- the new aspect regarding space is what I have in mind. And that is all.

Kiev Radiation Level 'Low'

AU021551 Paris AFP in English 1542 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] Moscow, May 2 (AFP) -- According to counts taken Wednesday, radioactivity levels were low in Kiev, the Soviet Union's third largest city and the closest to the disabled Chernobyl nuclear plant, Western experts said here Friday, quoting data relayed to foreign envoys by Soviet officials.

The experts said the level for the Ukrainian provincial capital of 80 micro-roentgens per hour reported by Soviet Atomic Energy Minister Andronik Petrosyants was "weak".

They note, however, that favorable winds had blown most possible fallout away from Kiev, which is 133 kilometers (83 miles) from Chernobyl.

The British and Finnish ambassadors and the French and Austrian charges d'affaires here were summoned to the Foreign Ministry Wednesday evening, and the Dutch ambassador on Thursday.

Petrosyants: 'Severe Blow'

AU021621 Paris AFP in English 1617 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] Moscow, May 2 (AFP) -- The Soviet Union's nuclear energy chief, speaking to Western diplomats, has implicitly acknowledged that last weekend's accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power station in the Ukraine was the worst civilian nuclear mishap in history, reliable sources said here Friday.

Andronik Petrosyants, president of the Atomic Energy Ministry, was quoted by the sources as having said the accident was a "severe blow to the peaceful exploitation of nuclear energy, not only in the USSR, but in the world"

Mr. Petrosyants was one of three Soviet officials who briefed three ambassadors and two charges d'affaires at the Soviet Foreign Ministry Wednesday Thursday.

He confirmed that a meltdown had taken place in the core of the Chernobyl reactor, and said a "protection zone" 30 km (20 miles) in radius had been set up around the plant.

Reassuring the diplomats of the safety of their citizens in the USSR, Mr. Petrosyants also expressed satisfaction that Soviet experts had managed to control the graphite fire in the plant without foreign assistance, the sources said.

SOLOVYEV SPEAKS AT LENINGRAD AKTIV MEETING

WA011408 Leningrad LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 23 Mar 86 pp 1-3

[Report by Yu.F. Solovyev, candidate of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningrad Obkom, at 22 March meeting of Leningrad party organization aktiv]

[Text] The 27th CPSU Congress occupied a special place in the annals of the party, the state, and the entire world revolutionary process and was an event of truly historic significance.

The congress took place at a time of sudden change in the life of the country and the modern world. It provided answers to cardinal questions raised by the times in which we live. It also formulated a comprehensively considered action program organically combining the magnificence of our goals and the realism of possibilities and the party's plans with the hopes and aspirations of each individual. The adopted decisions have determined the nature and pace of our progress for the next few years and the long term.

The main document of the party forum was the CPSU Central Committee Political Report delivered by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the party Central Committee. The report provided a comprehensive characterization of the current state of Soviet society and the situation in the international arena, and it reflected with Bolshevik candor the seriousness of present-day problems and determined in innovative fashion the strategy and tactics of the continued all-around improvement of socialism.

We were all greatly impressed by the very atmosphere of the congress -- an atmosphere of truth, albeit sometimes bitter; impartial, but with just criticism and frank discussion of urgent issues. This manifested once again the strength of our party, its profound moral health and its capacity for leading the difficult struggle for the rebuilding of society on a qualitatively new basis.

Realizing Lenin's idea that "politics must be the concern of the people, the concern of the proletariat," the congress set in motion the creative forces contained in the consciousness and ideological conviction of tens of millions of Soviet people.

The highest forum of the country's Communists was a major event in the life not only of our party but of all the world's revolutionary forces. Testimony to the tremendous authority of the CPSU was the participation in its work of 152 delegations of communist, worker, revolutionary-democratic, socialist and social democratic, labor and other parties and representatives of democratic public organizations from 113 countries.

Political wisdom and the most profound realism based on an objective evaluation of the modern era distinguish the party's foreign policy activity. It has become even more dynamic and militant in mankind's most noble struggle -- the struggle for peace.

An integral program of the complete elimination of weapons of mass extermination prior to the end of the 20th century was advanced in the 15 January statement of the CPSU Central Committee general secretary. The statement is essentially a blend of the philosophy of world security in the nuclear-space age and a platform of specific actions.

Consistently developing Lenin's principles of peaceful coexistence and the ideas of relaxing tension, the 27th CPSU Congress formulated the principles of creating an all-embracing system of international security in the military, political, economic and

humanitarian spheres. These principles logically ensue from the propositions of the CPSU Program. They are fully in keeping with the specific foreign policy initiatives of the Soviet Union aimed at curbing the arms race and establishing the ideals of peace and justice, which have engendered bright new hopes in all people of goodwill.

The rest is now up to political circles in the West, primarily the Washington administration. For history has given no one the right to respond negatively to the question: to be or not to be for mankind.

The conclusion drawn by V.I. Lenin back in 1920 retains its full force today: "Our peace policy is approved by the most tremendous majority of the world's population." It is such support that is encountered currently by the foreign policy course of the CPSU and its initiative and practical actions. A high evaluation of this course was expressed by representatives of the foreign delegations in their speeches at the congress, in labor collectives and in the course of meetings with the leaders of our party and state.

The 27th CPSU Congress made a major contribution to the strengthening of the cohesion of the world communist movement on the tested principles of Marxism-Leninism and lent powerful impetus to the development of all the world's anti-imperialist, peace-loving forces.

The main political result of the congress is that the policy of acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development and the consolidation of world peace was adopted and confirmed unanimously. Today it has become a law of life in the entire party and each organization thereof and a guide to action for communists and all working people.

Turning Energy of Ideas Into Energy of Action

The inexhaustible possibilities and advantages of socialism and the vital creativity of the masses are the main guarantee of the practicability of realization of the strategy of acceleration.

Aimed at the utmost growth of labor productivity based on S&T progress and the commissioning of the vast potential of our economy, it combines all-around concern for man with consistent realization of the principle of social justice.

Oriented toward the accomplishment of the real problems of life, inculcation of a high sense of personnel responsibility for the assigned work and the practical accomplishment of the tasks confronting society, the strategy of acceleration pre-determines the close unity of all economic, ideological, and organizing work in order to convert the energy of ideas into the energy of action.

Currently the priority task of the party, trade union and Komsomol organizations, soviet and business authorities, and all working people is to emphatically do away with the factors holding back the development of Leningrad's economy and impart the due dynamism to it.

It is important to convert into a stable source of accelerated economic growth all the positive trends which were manifested at the culminating stage of the last 5-year plan and in the course of realization of the "Intensification-90" program.

The obkom considers Leningraders' fulfillment of the most important directive targets of the 11th 5-Year Plan and its final year a logical result of the increased standard of work of the party organizations, the purposeful labor of all collectives, the strengthening of order and discipline, the intensification of the practice of economies and the expanded scale of the use of the latest achievements of S&T.

As you know, the oblast party organization's work on the creation and implementation of a program of intensification, the integration of science and production and socio-economic planning was evaluated highly at the party congress. And this makes much incumbent upon us.

The workers of Leningrad and the oblast have begun the current 5-year plan generally well. In 2 months, labor productivity in industry grew 5.9 percent compared with the planned 3.9 percent. The volume of contract work increased 9 percent. The workers of the agrarian-industrial complex [APK] coped with the set quotas for the sale to the state of animal husbandry products. The plans for retail commodity turnover and consumer services were overfulfilled.

Nonetheless, evaluating realistically the state of affairs and the increased plan quotas of the present 5-year period in all sectors of the economy without exception, we must clearly realize that ahead of us lies a tremendous amount of strenuous work demanding of everyone the highest responsibility and an emphatic departure from the evolved stereotypes of thinking and practice.

Here also we need to begin with the main point -- the plan as the law of all economic life. Its undeviating fulfillment must be for each party organization the yardstick of the evaluation of the professional qualities of personnel and its ability to operate consistently and energetically, not stopping in the face of difficulties that may arise.

The mentality of a certain section of leaders was formed under the conditions of the permissibility of adjustments to the plan and its adaptation to the results that were actually achieved. Such a situation could not have failed to have been reflected in the level of plan discipline.

From month to month in the last 5-year plan, significant volumes of products under-supplied to the state by the "Sputnik," "Istochnik," "Lenbytkhim" and Machine-Building imeni Karl Marx associations and Sosnovyy Bor Feed-Preparation Equipment Machine-Building Plant were made good by other enterprises of Vasileostrovskiy, Petrogradskiy, Tosnenskiy and Vyborgskiy (city) rayons and the city of Sosnovyy Bor.

Neither has this debased practice been overcome this year.

At the initial stage of the 5-year plan, even a number of industrial enterprises failed to ensure fulfillment of the established plan quotas and pregress socialist pledges. Work at certain important construction projects has begun at a slow pace. At the end of February, the introduction of apartment houses constituted only 4 percent of the annual plan and one-third of the quarterly plan. And this list could be continued.

We must not become reconciled to such extraneous features of the past slowing the pace of our rebuilding. We must fundamentally change the situation where the serious failures of individual labor collectives have to be covered up by enterprises which are operating steadily. The times are different now, and there will be no return to the past. We are simply on a different track from those who have not grasped this.

The party has determined as the arterial direction of the sudden change toward intensification of production and increased quality and efficiency a profound modernization of the economy based on the latest achievements of S&T and an improvement in the economic mechanism and system of management.

The essence of the planned transformations consists of a shift in the center of gravity from quantitative to qualitative indicators, from an expansion of production

capital to its accelerated replacement and from an increase in full-energy and raw material resources to the utmost economies therein and also to the preferential development of the production and social infrastructure.

These problems are particularly urgent for Leningrad's economy in connection with the great proportion of obsolescent and obsolete fixed capital and the low degree of the mechanization and automation of production processes in a number of sectors of the economy.

In accordance with the "Intensification-90" program, it is contemplated increasing the amount of capital investment in retooling and modernization to 80 percent.

Capital investments in retooling almost doubled in the 5-year plan.

However, quantitative indicators must not conceal the qualitative aspect from us. It is a question of newly introduced equipment frequently being used not to replace obsolete and unproductive equipment but to unfoundedly increase and expand production on the former technical base and enlist additional labor and material resources therein. And it was not fortuitous, therefore, that approximately one-fourth of certified jobs in industry proved superfluous or were not in keeping with modern requirements.

Frequently, modernization is carried out without adequate feasibility studies, non-comprehensively, and without regard for the latest achievements of S&T and the level of concentration and specialization. As a result, newly installed machinery and machine tools are not producing the anticipated results. Labor productivity in industry has, in recent years, grown more slowly than the capital-worker ratio by a factor of more than two, and there has been practically no change in the shift-work factor of equipment, unique equipment included.

Problems of modernization and retooling require more specific study. This is all the more important in that our planning authorities have outlined measures for the accelerated development of many sectors of the economy for the current 5-year plan.

For example, three times more resources are allocated for the retooling of Leningrad's light industry enterprises than in the past 5-year plan.

Considering the priority nature of machine building, it is contemplated practically doubling the resources for the development of this sector in the Leningrad region.

The paramount task of party, soviet and business authorities is ensuring the efficient use of the allocated resources and striving for rapid and maximum returns per invested ruble, which must work in full for the special aims of the intensification program and the achievement of the prescribed high economic growth rate.

Regarding the directions of the June (1985) meeting in the CPSU Central Committee the processes of the intensification of Leningrad's economy were further developed and extended in the course of formation of the 5-year plan. The main emphasis was put on the achievement of a breakthrough in economic development and the creation of a firm foundation for the fulfillment of the quotas outlined by the Basic Guidelines.

The oblast report and election party conference commended the enterprises working the most assertively on the organization of large-scale comprehensively automated shops and works on the basis of computers developing and introducing the latest progressive techniques and creating new modern machines, instruments and materials. As a whole, the results of the first stage of this work may be evaluated positively.

At the same time, we have approached a line where, as they say, an offensive needs to be developed along the entire front and on all axes. Every labor collective of every sector of the economy must have a precise action program for transition to an intensive path of development closely tied in with the targets of the 12th 5-Year Plan.

The gorkoms and raykoms must not only exercise supervision of the progress of this crucial work but also render the enterprises the necessary assistance in the solution of problems which arise and make a high-minded evaluation of the actions of leaders who attempt to shift realization of what has been mapped out to the end of the 5-year period. And there are such instances here.

Thus the Vyborg "Elektroinstrument" Plant, the "Sputnik" Association and the Leningrad Instrument Plant have not yet embarked properly on work on introducing efficient means of mechanization and automation. The practice of the accommodation of obsolescent unproductive equipment is continued with an enviable persistence here.

It is necessary to come fully to grips with the problem of an enhancement of the role of small and medium enterprises in an acceleration of the economic growth rate.

All possibilities for this exist here. But, as the adduced examples show, we are as yet making far from full use of them. And it is not fortuitous that such collectives' share of the total industrial product manifestly fails to correspond to the number of workmen employed.

Many of these enterprises have backward technology and unsatisfactory work and social conditions, and labor productivity is lower by a factor of 1.5-2 than in the large associations. As a result, considerable human and material resources are being diverted into the manufacture of obsolete, low-quality products, which are frequently dispatched, per joint labor, to make up intricate and crucial equipment.

Speaking of the guidelines of the development of Leningrad's machine-building enterprises, it is necessary to emphasize once again the urgency of the task of a sharp rise in the quality of the machinery, equipment, and instruments they manufacture. This is where the progressive thought of our scientists, designers, and production engineers should be materialized. The scale of the impending work may be judged merely by the fact that in the 5-year plan more than 700 important machine-building products have to be brought to a point where they correspond to or surpass the world standard.

It is primarily a question of the dependability, durability and economical nature of the machine tools produced by the Association imeni Ya.M. Sverdlov, the numerical programmed control facilities of the "Elektronmash" Scientific-Production Association, the "Kirovets" tractors and the gas-turbine plants of the "Nevskiy zavod" Association imeni V.I. Lenin, the generators and electric engines of the "Elektrosila" Association and a number of others.

In accordance with the party's demands, the struggle for quality should be conducted broadly and specifically, encompassing the entire list of manufactured products. The party and business authorities must adopt the most energetic measures to restore the high reputation of many commodities bearing the Leningrad trademark that has been lost to a certain extent.

We cannot reconcile ourselves to the fact that currently, approximately only 18 percent of cultural-everyday commodities and housewares carries the official Emblem of Quality. Last year, almost 12 percent of inspected products in trade were discarded as faulty, and acceptance in the trade network was suspended from 24 enterprises.

There are a great number of complaints about the "Sputnik" Association's domestic refrigerators and the "Petrodvortsovyy chasovoy zavod" Association's electronic-quartz watches.

The technical level and quality of many types of intricate home equipment such as the movie cameras, manufactured by the Leningrad Optical-Mechanical Association imeni V.I. Lenin, and the color television receivers of the Association imeni Kositskiy remain low.

This problem did not emerge today, all of a sudden, it emerged in collectives with tremendous modern scientific potential capable of solving major S&T problems. Evidently, the steady belief has taken shape in the management of the associations that the given product is not the main product, whence the attitude toward it.

Everyone must grasp that we will not solve the problem of dependably catering for effective demand without the high quality of goods and without the active participation in their production of each enterprise. This is not just an economic, but also a political question.

In the accomplishment of the Leningrad economy's accelerated transition to an intensive path of development an important role belongs to the Leningrad Scientific Center of the USSR Academy of Sciences and all Leningrad scientists.

It is extraordinarily important for us to know where our science is not as yet exerting a decisive influence on the development of the economy and to have a clear idea of the future directions of S&T progress.

In conjunction with the Leningrad Gorispolkom Planning Commission, the Scientific Center must step up coordination of R&D, prevent the dispersal of forces and resources on petty matters and unnecessary duplication, make more extensive use of available scientific process stock and break down interdepartmental barriers more boldly. It is important to promptly collate and disseminate new progressive forms of science's combination with production.

In other words, it is necessary within the framework of the plans for the comprehensive economic and social development of the collectives to shape and implement more actively a uniform S&T policy, which would constantly be a step ahead of rising production requirements.

It is necessary to attentively study and collate the work experience of Leningrad's organizations and enterprises that are a part of the recently formed intersectoral S&T complexes and prepare on this basis specific proposals pertaining to the possible expansion of Leningrad organizations' participation in them, proceeding from the necessary acceleration of the development of certain directions of S&T progress in the region.

The creation of new equipment with high marks of dependability and competitiveness, and the development of progressive techniques of its manufacture are directly connected with an increase in the responsibility of the collectives of the sectoral scientific research institutes and design bureaus.

Science and technology complexes have been formed and modular-unit methods of design have been introduced in recent years at a number of shipbuilding and instrument-making enterprises and organizations. The new forms of science's integration with production are according an opportunity for intensifying party supervision of an abbreviation of all phases of the "research--production" cycle. They are permitting the enterprises also, from the very first series models, to lower the labor input of the products by almost one-third, ensure their high quality, and accelerate appreciably the rate of product replacement.

In other words, it is a question of a preferential rebuilding of production and not of the adaptation of newly assimilated products to an obsolete production engineering base. This approach merits the most extensive dissemination.

It is essential to raise to a qualitatively new level the interconnection of VUZ science and production and academy and sectoral scientific organizations. This constitutes for us large and far from fully utilized potential.

Last year Leningrad VUZ's graduated for the first time 19,000 specialists in promising new fields of the "Intensification-90" program. To judge by the quantitative indicator, the higher school has managed to reorient itself quite rapidly. It is now necessary to build up the qualitative parameters of tuition.

It stands to reason, of course, that an improvement in the training of future scientists and creatively minded specialists is linked directly with the enlistment in research work of the students. The youth S&T exhibition which concluded recently showed youth's considerable actual possibilities in the solution of many problems of an acceleration of socioeconomic development.

The coordination center for monitoring realization of the "Intensification-90" program should evaluate the students' creative ideas more attentively and promptly and ensure that the most promising ones are introduced in a planned manner in various sectors of the economy.

More than half the doctors and candidates of sciences are concentrated in Leningrad's VUZ's. But they perform no more than 14 percent of scientific research. There is food for thought here.

Undoubtedly, science's turnabout toward the needs of the economy should be effected more vigorously, but production's turnabout toward science and its receptivity to S&T achievements are no less important. Practice affords many examples of valuable ideas and developments not being extensively applied for years. Thus, there has repeatedly been talk of the big possibilities of the "Mekhanobr" vibration-constant decives produced in the All-Union Scientific Research and Planning Institute. Unfortunately, manifestly inadequate use is being made of this efficient principle in industry, in construction, and in other sectors of material production alike.

This is a far from isolated instance. An analysis shows that only 10-15 percent of scientific inventions are applied in production within the following 3-5 years. Many leaders connect the reasons for such an attitude toward the use of innovations with the absence of an economic mechanism of the interaction of science and production and effective levers of material stimulation. I believe, comrades, that this is primarily a handy excuse for the inactivity and lack of enterprise of certain executives and their reluctance to take on extra burdens and leave the beaten trail.

Such a position is manifestly contrary to the party's strategic directives pertaining to an intensification of social production based on the accelerated introduction of the achievements of S&T progress. The party committees are obliged for its practical accomplishment to commission all potential and all the experience accumulated in the course of elaboration and implementation of the "Intensification-90" program of active influence on the rate of renewal of the technical basis of production.

A New Acceleration of the APK

A decisive change in the agrarian sector and a sharp improvement on this basis in catering for the country's food requirements was determined a priority task by the 27th CPSU Congress. Compared with the preceding 5-year plan, the workers of the APK

of our oblast have to increase average annual agricultural production by a factor of almost 1.2. Its main increase here is to be achieved thanks to qualitative factors -- an increase in the yield of crops and the productiveness of livestock and poultry.

Without belittling the results which have been achieved and currently our disposal, it needs to be said with all certainty that they do not yet correspond with our possibilities. The huge resources invested in the development of the oblast's agriculture are not as yet producing the due returns. A situation where many leaders, receiving the maximum from the state, are endeavoring to assume minimal plans, and not always coping with these even, can no longer be tolerated. Last year dozens of farms upset milk, meat, potato and vegetable supplies. There are more debtors in Slantsevskiy, Vsevolozhskiy and Kingiseppskiy rayons.

There are serious shortcomings in questions of the use in the APK of the achievements of S&T progress and means of mechanization and automation. This is a fundamental issue. In the oblast as a whole currently intensive techniques are being applied in cultivation of the main crops on areas not exceeding 30 percent. They are being introduced unjustifiably slowly on the sovkhoses of Volkhovskiy, Lodeynopolskiy, Boksitogorskiy and Kirishskiy rayons, which, naturally, is being reflected both in the yield in plant growing and in productiveness in animal husbandry.

A further increase in the fertility of the land and the creation of strong fodder facilities are to be the priority direction in the 12th 5-Year Plan. Twenty-four percent more resources than in the preceding 5-year period are being channeled to this end. And they must be handled correctly.

It is time to have done with the practice whereby many sovkhoses, given the support of the oblast planning commission, channel the bulk of capital investments into the new construction of production buildings and installations, but involve themselves extremely inadequately in the accelerated upgrading of production engineering equipment. This is giving rise to an unwarranted increase in the production costs of the main products and a sharp reduction in the output-capital ratio. There are no two ways about it here: a fundamental reorganization is needed. It is a question of an increase in the volume of modernization of the animal husbandry complexes, reclaimed land and the production of leguminous crop seeds and an appreciable strengthening of the fodder storage and processing facilities.

A reduction in product losses throughout the cycle -- from the field and livestock section through the store -- remains a significant reserve of an increase in food resources.

It is well known that proportional capital investments in the creation of storage facilities are incomparably less than is required for an increase in production. At the same time, however, there has as yet been no reorientation of investment policy on the part of the Leningrad Oblispolkom and oblast Agrarian-Industrial Committee in the direction of the construction of the necessary installations in places where the farming product is cultivated. These questions have also been reflected insufficiently clearly in the "Intensification-90" program.

The problem of fodder production remains acute. The oblast as a whole is fulfilling the fodder-procurement plan. Despite this, many sovkhoses and even whole rayons are conducting the wintering under difficult conditions. Milk purchases declined in some rayons compared with the preceding wintering owing to a reduction in productiveness. This was the case in Tikhvinskiy, Volosovskiy, and Kirovskiy rayons. And the sovkhoses of Luzhskiy and Vyborgskiy rayons are permitting a decline in the milk yield at this time also, and it would seem that they are reconciled to such a situation there. The point being that a number of farms are failing to adopt effective

measures for the development of an on-farm fodder base, feed production is not being brought into balance with requirements and specialists' responsibility for forage quality has slackened.

This is well known to the oblispolkom and the organizations under its jurisdiction. They have adopted numerous decrees and held various meetings on these questions. But in practice this has proven nothing more than the semblance of active work on the removal of shortcomings. Meanwhile many leaders are gambling, as before, on obtaining formula food from state stocks.

At the party congress, the talk was about creative use of Lenin's idea concerning a tax in kind, which presupposes the further development of economic methods of management and a broadening of the kolkhozes' and sovkhoses' independence. While having fixed plans for the sale of products for each year of the 5-year plan, the farms are acquiring an opportunity to sell in the way that they themselves deem expedient -- on the market, via cooperative trade -- or use for other needs everything that has been cultivated over and above the plan and, in respect of certain types of product, a considerable proportion of the planned amounts also.

Without dwelling on this question in detail, I will say merely that we must put whole farms, associations, and individual workman under conditions of complete financial autonomy. This is no simple task. It requires of the gorkoms and raykoms, the soviets and the oblast Agrarian-Industrial Committee the rapid and active reorganization of their work. Its result should be an appreciable increase in the efficiency of farming and animal husbandry and an improvement in Leningraders' provision with the basic foodstuffs thanks to intra-oblast production.

Particular responsibility for this lies with the new organs of control of the oblast APK. They were formed, as is known, on the basis of former oblast and rayon organizations and brought up to strength with personnel. It is important that their activity preclude the old methods of work: bureaucracy, red tape, and a departmental approach. These demands apply equally to the city Agrarian-Industrial Committee that is being formed which unites all enterprises of food, meat, dairy, fruit, and vegetable industries of the city and oblast.

Capital Construction on Par With the New Requirements

The accelerated technical upgrading of all sectors of the economy is directly connected with the fundamental reorganization of investment policy and the increased efficiency of capital construction.

The party emphatically demands an end to the dispersal of resources and an abridgment of the construction front. A specific task has been set -- switching as of 1987 to the erection of facilities within normative times. This dictates the need for a thorough reorientation of the activity of all participants in the investment process. It should provide with regard for the basic socioeconomic concepts of the Master Plan of the Development of Leningrad and Leningrad Oblast for a thorough study of the programs for the consistent renewal of the production of each enterprise and each sector.

Proceeding from the "budget" of construction capacity, the planning commissions and obkom departments, economic primarily, should attentively analyze the decisions adopted earlier on questions connected with the quotas of construction-installation work and determine within the framework of the 5-year plan the order of priority of the channeling of capital investments. It is essential in accordance with the party's directives to shift the emphasis from new construction to modernization and retooling and concentrate resources on the facilities nearing completion which determine S&T progress and

the solution of the most important social problems of Leningrad and the oblast. The gorispolkom and oblispolkom must approach the solution of these questions promptly and with all due responsibility.

It is necessary to emphatically change the attitude of all participants in the construction complex — clients, designers, contractors — toward the use of allocated capital investments. Lack of coordination in their actions is being reflected negatively in catering fully and opportunely for what has been planned. At the end of February, the oblast Stroybank office had on-site itemized lists for only half the facilities, which constitutes one-third of the annual volume of operations. There is not one facility where all questions necessary for the organization of production have been solved. Things are worst in Kingiseppskiy, Boksitogorskiy, Kirishskiy and Slantsevskiy rayons, which for these same reasons permitted disruption of the capital construction plan last year.

The obkom bureau studied the question of measures for an increase in the efficiency of capital construction. Essentially a program document for party, soviet, and business authorities for the present 5-year period was adopted. It provides, in particular, for an accelerated buildup of the capacity of the construction organizations on the basis of a sharp increase in labor productivity, the retooling of the sector, the extensive industrialization of construction and the expanded use of progressive materials and structures of high plant readiness. Measures were outlined for an improvement of planning and the management structure and the introduction of cost accounting relations. Specific directions of assistance in the solution of these questions on the part of the soviet and business authorities were determined simultaneously.

A sufficient time has elapsed. However, no pronounced positive changes in the activity of the main administrations, trusts, and house-building works and administrations are yet to be seen. The Glavleningradstroy is not making full use of the opportunities accorded it for rectifying the serious disruptions in housing construction which were allowed to occur last year. The lag in the production of products at house-building works behind the capacity for their installation at the construction sites continues to increase. A full-fledged second shift has yet to be organized at the works. This is making the creation of normative process stock highly problematic in housing construction. There has been practically no change in the level of plant readiness of the prefabricated house components, and there is no decline in the labor input of finishing operations.

The approach to realization of the planned measures does not testify that the mentality of the leaders of the construction main administrations has undergone serious change. Among other collectives, the Glavzapstroy displayed an initiative in December 1985, concerning an increase in the volume of construction and the modernization and retooling of light industry facilities in the current 5-year plan, but has formulated a plan for the current year containing far fewer commitments.

The construction main administrations' attitude toward the development of their own facilities does not withstand criticism. The introduction of capacity for the production of such materials in seriously short supply as expanded clay aggregate, crushed granite and so forth is disrupted from year to year. As a whole, for the 12th 5-Year Plan, the Leningrad Gorispolkom is also allocating for a buildup of the capacity of the construction industry and construction materials industry resources considerably less than requirements and below the level of the last 5-year period.

The construction workers are being given full support in tackling the tasks confronting the sector. However, the question amounts to a lack of due assertiveness, purposefulness, and aggressiveness in the practical action of all participants in the investment process.

It needs to be said plainly that slowness and insufficient perseverance in an improvement in the work of the construction organizations under their jurisdiction, the development of material-technical facilities and the training and retention of personnel are being displayed by the oblispolkom and gorispolkom.

The Leningrad Gorkom and Obkom Construction Department must be more exacting toward the leaders of the contracting organizations and increase the efficacy of supervision of fulfillment of the measures for the increased efficiency of the entire construction complex outlined by the obkom bureau decree.

Improving the Economic Mechanism and Production Relations

On the basis of an in-depth analysis of the methods of management employed at the present time, the congress emphasized the urgent need for the creation of an integral, efficient, and flexible management system making it possible to realize the possibilities of socialism more fully and enhance the role of the economic levers of management. These levers should, in practice, subordinate our entire production to social needs, actively increase the interest of everyone in the results of collective labor and inculcate in the personnel socialist enterprise.

The outlined directions of the reorganization of the economic mechanism are designed to decisively extend the boundaries of the independence of the associations and enterprises and raise their responsibility for the achievement of the highest work efficiency. It is necessary to impart to management modern organizational structures, ensure the optimum combination of sectoral and territorial planning, effect the all-around democratization of management and enhance the role of the labor collectives therein.

At the same time, the congress pointed to the great significance of the active creative participation in the solution of complex and crucial questions of economic reorganization of all production organizers, specialists and scientists both in the formulation of actual proposals for a refinement of the organizational structures and economic relations and the official acceptance of the new solutions in practice. It is important not to wait, but to seek and act more boldly and vigorously.

Thus the experience of the broad-scale economic experiment at a number of Leningrad enterprises and organizations of industry, construction, transport and consumer service pertaining to an improvement of the remuneration of production engineers and designers has convincingly confirmed the soundness of the measures being adopted for a broadening of the independence and responsibility of the basic production components.

Some 306 enterprises, at which half of the industrial production personnel of the city and oblast works and more than 50 percent of the total industrial product is manufactured, have been operating under the new conditions as of 1 January 1986.

However, as an analysis shows, an extension of the boundaries of the experiment does not in itself mean a profound qualitative reorganization of management methods. Attesting this is the fact that even under conditions of greater independence, certain managers are failing to display greater responsibility and the enterprises which they head are operating, as before, unprofitably and with the most flagrant violations of plan discipline.

Only one conclusion suggests itself: Believing, evidently, that the new mechanism will work automatically, the gorkoms and raykoms and soviet and trade union organizations have markedly slackened attention to the practical solution of an important state problem. This is a dangerous delusion since the real success of the rebuilding of the productive forces and production relations is determined most directly by people, our personnel -- from the worker through the director.

The party committees must recognize clearly that the current transition from quantitative to qualitative evaluations of business activity directly affects the interests of each person. Many complex and acute questions and problems arise here, for whose correct and timely solution the primary party organizations are entirely responsible.

Under these conditions there is also an enhancement of the role of the territorial soviet and business authorities in the prompt study and collation of accumulated experience and an improvement in planning and material-technical supply.

Essentially, comrades, it is the start of a great deal of work on a refinement of the economic mechanism that will continue and intensify. In the course of its development the labor collectives must be prepared for enterprises' transition to full cost accounting and self-financing and clearly recognize that the level of their income is being made directly dependent on the effectiveness of the final results.

In other words, the task is that of changing the thrust of the economic mechanism, overcoming its expenditure nature and aiming for an increase in quality and efficiency, an acceleration of S&T progress and enhancement of the role of the human factor. The activity of all party organizations must be oriented toward achieving what has been planned.

The realization of profound transformations in the economy will demand considerable efforts and extra time. At the same time, the party has set the task of securing a sharp increase in the growth rate at once, today. It may be accomplished only given the commissioning of all our potential, primarily that which does not require major outlays but produces rapid and tangible results. I refer to organizational-economic and socio-psychological factors, better use of the production potential which has been created, an increase in the efficacy of the stimulation of labor, a strengthening of organization and discipline and the surmounting of lax management.

It is no secret that at many of our enterprises, machine tools, machinery, and equipment are still being used unsatisfactorily and frequently stand idle. This pertains to computers also. The majority of automated control systems and data-computing systems are not comprehensive and consist of a collection of local problems making it possible to mechanize certain individual solutions, calculations and control elements at enterprise level.

The inadequate discipline of cooperative supplies is appreciably upsetting business relations. The partners' unreliability is holding back the development of intra-sectoral and intersectoral specialization and frequently forcing enterprises to create their own "subsistence economy".

There is considerable potential in the use of labor resources. The party congress affirmed as clearly as could be that there is no manpower shortage problem. It is entirely a matter of the low productivity of labor and its inadequate organization and ineffective stimulation. The certification and streamlining of jobs are being conducted formally as yet and new progressive forms of pay for engineering work are not blazing a trail for themselves quickly enough at many enterprises.

Much has to be done to put an end to extravagance and the unproprietary use of material values. It is essential that the Lenglavsnab complete as quickly as possible the creation of a precise system of the accounting and control of the use of all types of resources, which will enable us to tackle a most important task set in the Basic Guidelines of the country's economic and social development -- securing 75-80 percent of the increase in fuel, energy, raw material, and metal requirements by way of economies therein.

In enlisting in production all the potential of the economy it is difficult to exaggerate the role of socialist competition. The oblast Council of Trade Unions is called upon to channel it toward an increase in work quality, economies, and thrift, and the achievement of the charted frontiers in each collective and at each place of work. The trade union organizations are obliged to strive more assertively for the creation in the labor collectives of all the necessary conditions for highly productive labor and normal recreation and social life. Recently brigade leaders and workers who were delegates to the 27th CPSU Congress appealed to all workers of Leningrad and the oblast for the completion by the 70th anniversary of the Great October of fulfillment of the targets of 2 years of the 5-year plan and high product quality and for the economical consumption of all types of resources. It is necessary to do everything to ensure that this patriotic undertaking obtain the most extensive support and universal dissemination.

Enhancing the Impact of the Social Sphere on Labor Efficiency

Concern for man and questions of social policy have always been at the center of our party's attention. It is in this sphere that the results of economic activity affecting the working people's vital interests are realized and the highest goals of socialism are embodied.

Much is being done in Leningrad and the oblast for the development of the system of education, culture and health care and the construction of housing and trade and consumer service facilities and children's preschool establishments. The successes here are obvious, but there are no grounds for resting content with what has been achieved. The party has advanced a crucial task -- increasing the impact of the social sphere on labor efficiency and adopting emphatic measures to remove the existing problems here. At the present time the everyday social conditions of those working in a number of sectors of the economy have begun to slow the economic growth rate to a certain extent. This applies primarily to light industry, construction, transport, communications, and certain others.

The party Central Committee has sharply criticized underestimation of the importance of the creation of a firm material base of the social infrastructure on the part of central and local management authorities and condemned the rooted practice of the residual principle of the allocation of resources for its development. We must draw the necessary conclusions from this. It is not enough today to see shortcomings, it is necessary to emphatically remove them. And here, as you know, there are still many difficult problems.

Many complaints are received from the working people about the work of trade and consumer service enterprises. The plan for the opening of new stores is not fulfilled and the resources allocated for this purpose are not assimilated from year to year. Throughout the 11th 5-Year Plan, the provision of the population in Leningrad with sales floorspace per 1,000 inhabitants remained at the same level. Part of new living space is adapted for sales outlets in the city annually. Every conceivable kind of stall and temporary booth, which for many years substitute for a permanent trading system, is set up in the microregions. And all this is at times passed off as concern for people and for a practical, flexible approach to the solution of urgent questions.

The Leningrad Gorispolkom and its Planning Commission are being slow to change their attitude toward the sector. The quota of contract work on its development in the present 5-year plan is being set below the quota of the corresponding section of the "Intensification-90" program, which, of course, will not solve the problem of Leningraders' provision with a system of stores and generally accessible public catering enterprises.

There have long been serious shortcomings in the organization of the population's provision with foodstuffs. There is no letup in the stream of complaints about the low quality of bread and meat products and the disruptions in the supplies to trade of dairy products. The corresponding industrial managers' references to so-called objective circumstances have become habitual.

Or another urgent question. Leningrad and the oblast annually lay in for winter storage vegetables and potatoes in volume and assortment catering fully for the population's need therefor. It is difficult to explain to the customer why, in the wake of the farmers' and procurement officials' victory reports, he is forced to purchase in the stores frequently substandard commodities that have not been properly prepared for sale. To what end, one wonders, are thousands of people taken away from their main work to assist in the fields and at the vegetable depots when the due result is not forthcoming. And the reasons for this are to be found in the tenacity of departmental interests and serious problems the length of the chain -- from the field to the store. It is a question of the low standard of seed breeding and violations of agricultural techniques and the processes of the preparation and organization of the storage of the farming products.

The same departmental ambitions are the stumbling block in the organization of the supply to the population of early vegetables. In the state sector radishes and cauliflower are on sale for not more than 1 month, and greens and marrow squash appear only at the very end of July.

The main indicator of farms' activity is still not the degree of fulfillment of orders in terms of specified time and volume and, consequently, satisfaction of demand but the total weight volume of the surrender of vegetables to the state.

It is necessary to break more boldly with the practice of gross returns, develop direct "field--store" ties and make more extensive use of the local soviets' rights for the establishment on the territory of seasonal retail and purchase prices for these products in order that it be profitable to everyone to supply and sell to the population vegetables of broad assortment and good quality.

The oblast and city agrarian-industrial committees must adopt specific measures commissioning all economic levers for an improvement in the city dwellers' provision with vegetables.

The task of the utmost qualitative improvement and further development of the sphere of payable consumer services also requires an enterprising, businesslike approach. It cannot be considered normal when demand for them is three and sometimes more times greater than supply. For example, for rural inhabitants in our oblast in practice neither the consumer cooperatives nor the sovkhoses offer services connected with the transportation of freight, the repair and construction of farm buildings and the storage and processing of surpluses of the products of the attached plots. Nor is the situation any better in Leningrad. Private service is thriving, for example, in the maintenance and repair of private automobiles, the fitting of apartments and summerhouses and the sewing of furs. This list could be continued.

Many gorkom and raykom secretaries, local soviet ispolkom chairmen, directors of enterprise, establishment, construction and transport organization are displaying unjustified passiveness in realization of the comprehensive program for goods and services. They still do not know the labor collectives' potential for offering consumer services and have no specific proposals in this connection.

It is urgent to change the current situation. The obkom will view this as an objective criterion of verification with the professional qualities in the executive personnel.

Housing and education; health care and goods in mass demand; trade and the services sphere; mass transit; heat, power, water, and gas supply -- all these, comrades, are the vital concern of the soviets. Some people might say: This is not my business, yet, for the soviets such a formulation is unacceptable. Having to return to these problems time and again means that our soviets still do not always have sufficient professionalism, responsibility and initiative; that they have slackened supervision of the activity of the organizations under their jurisdiction. Frequently, individual soviet officers conceal a reluctance to tackle questions raised by manifestly groundless references to an absence of sufficient rights.

No initiative from the soviets geared to an improvement in service of the population remains unattended and unsupported by the party authorities.

Our soviets are endowed with the necessary powers in the elaboration of balanced plans for comprehensive economic and social development. But this predetermines the measure of responsibility for the complete satisfaction of Leningraders' daily needs and requirements. As the party points out, concern for people and the social sphere need to be moved to the fore, at least on par with production.

Man's way of life, his requirements and interests must constantly be at the center of the attention of the party, soviet authorities, public organizations and industrial managers.

For Unity of Word and Deed

The accomplishment of the strategic tasks and an acceleration of the socioeconomic development of Soviet society will depend to a determined extent on the degree to which the creative potential of the broadest strata of the working people is revealed and effectively utilized.

Particular significance in this is attached to the conclusion contained in the CPSU Central Committee Political Report that it is essential today to concentrate the entire force of party influence on the attainment of each person understanding the seriousness of the present moment and its pivotal nature.

The congress supported the policy being pursued by the CPSU Central Committee to channel the tremendous transforming force of Marxist-Leninist ideology into the country's accelerated development, stimulation of the human factor and the turnabout of each collective and each worker toward the new tasks.

The obkom considers its primary duty to convey the ideas and decisions of the congress and their content to all communists and all Leningraders. Concerned discussion and study of the most important documents of the party forum are under way at numerous meetings and gatherings in the labor collectives, at classes in the political and economic education system and in the course of agitators' talks. The recent uniform political day was devoted to a detailed explanation of those documents.

The results of polls and the outcome of mass-political measures in the labor collectives have shown as convincingly as can be that Leningraders entirely approve of the party's policy and are fully resolved to respond in deeds to the congress' decisions.

At the same time, however, it is important to be distinctly aware of all the contradictions and difficulties that characterize the process of the break with the old and outdated and to know the factors exerting a certain negative influence on the development of the social consciousness. It should not be forgotten that the discrepancy between word and deed which continues in places seriously devalues our educational efforts, extinguishes people's enthusiasm and initiative and gives rise to the dangerous weed of indifference.

The congress sharply criticized science representatives for their isolation from life's requirements and the remoteness of theoretical developments from the urgent tasks of practice. This reproach may be addressed in full to a large detachment of Leningrad scholars also. Scholasticism, mechanical acceptance and dogmatism are predominant in a number of works from our economists, philosophers, historians, legal experts, sociologists and literary critics.

What kind of active position in science is it if in certain VUZ's social scientists' research activity for a long time has no specific outlet in practice. Thus in recent years half of the political economy lecturers in the Mechanical Institute have not published a single article or even methods development and theses.

Millions of rubles are spent annually on the social science departments' performance of business contract research. But, there is frequently no tangible practicable result. For example, for many years social scientists of the Financial-Economic Institute have been working up the "Krasnyy treugolnik" Association plans for the organization of labor and management, but there are no practical results from them.

The times insistently demand that the social scientists' works reflect profoundly the sociopolitical aspects of the realization of the acceleration concept.

In the light of the new tasks it is necessary to reorganize more energetically the forms and methods of ideological influence on the masses. This applies primarily to political and economic studies, which are still attended by elements of pedantry and an academic style in which the classes are conducted in accordance with a well-known -- let us speak plainly -- primitive method by the propagandist. Even during the discussion of serious, pressing issues, use is made of notes prepared in advance and there is an absence of free discussion.

Specificity and practical efficiency and live contact with people are frequently screened by bureaucratic statistics. As a result those with whom it is necessary to work first and foremost -- violators of labor discipline, slipshod workers, devotees of the bottle and young people who have started work recently -- frequently prove to be beyond the influence of our ideological activists.

Educational work will be more effective the more energetically the ideals, principles and values of the new society are established. The time demand the firm and consistent removal from our life of the moribund viruses of such unhealthy phenomena as drunkenness and alcoholism, money-grubbing and cupidity, social apathy and time-serving.

Losses and unproductive expenditure in the economy of Leningrad and the oblast constitute millions of rubles annually. The losses are often written off as production costs here, and the specific culprits escape responsibility. The number of instances of embezzlement, bribe-taking and abuse of office is declining slowly. Naturally, such antisocial phenomena thrive, as a rule, where there is a lack of due order, and where accounting and control has slackened and the responsibility of the personnel for an assigned task has diminished. Thus, there are serious shortcomings in the preservation of socialist property at the Nevskaya and Zhdanovskaya depots of the "Glavlenplodovoshchprom," Confectionary Factory No 2 of the Confectionary Industry Association imeni N.K. Krupskaya, the 4th Dairy of the "Lenmolprom" Association and a number of others.

Mention should also be made of the fact that instances of defrauding of the state, inflated reports and distortions of accountability at times escape the field of vision of the law enforcement authorities and enterprise and organization party committees and bureaus and are not emphatically cut short and condemned. This is particularly characteristic of the construction and transport organizations.

All that has been said testifies that the assertive action of the party organizations and labor collectives and the consistent and unswerving application of the force of the law are essential in realization of the principle of social justice.

This is also directly related to the establishment of a sober way of life. In Leningrad and the oblast, just as throughout the country, we have succeeded in somewhat reducing drunkenness on the job and the number of persons in an intoxicated condition on the city's streets and behind the wheel. As a result the injury rate is down also. But we are still far from victory over this dangerous evil. Implacability toward drunkards has not yet become universal. Activists of the All-Union Voluntary Society for the Struggle for Sobriety have not had their say in the solution of these problems.

There are many unsolved problems in the organization of meaningful leisure time of the citizens, particularly young people. Work is only slowly developing on the creation of the simplest sports grounds, sports halls, various interest clubs on a cooperative basis and workshops. It is perfectly clear that we will only achieve certain improvements in this important sphere when we manage to precisely coordinate and unite the efforts of the soviet authorities, party, trade union, and other public organizations, cultural establishments, schools and housing trusts and the public of the microregions. In accordance with the example of Krasnogvardeyskiy, Krasnoselskiy and Gatchinskiy rayons, it is essential to develop a movement for more active sports and cultural-mass work at the place of residency.

Particular significance is attached currently to the efficacy of the mass media. For journalists there is no more important task than a further deepening of the meaningfulness, analytical character and civicism of the articles. The role of collective propagandist, agitator and organizer of the masses demands constant attention of the press, television and radio to what is new and an endeavor to overcome evolved stereotypes and keep the pen spearheaded against the most urgent problems troubling Leningraders.

An important role in realization of the integral approach to the process of education proclaimed by the party belongs to art and literature. Socialist art has always seen as its mission the creation of artistic characters in whom contemporaneity and the sources of the heroic deeds of our people are inseparably combined. The critical fervor of art should be aimed against everything that holds back our society's forward movement. While treating talent respectfully, considering the specific features of a work and evaluating benevolently the search of writers, composers, artists and personalities of the stage and motion pictures we do not have the right not to make a scrupulous evaluation of subjective deviations, portrayals of ordinary life and soul-searching, which are at times passed off as artistic discoveries.

In tackling these tasks we expect an active portion on the part of the Main Culture Administration, our creative unions and the mass media, the editorial offices of literary-artistic journals and publishing houses and film studio and exhibition committee artistic councils. Their entire activity should be geared to constantly increasing the maturity of mind and enriching the spiritual world of Soviet man.

Establishing Efficiency, Specificity and Exactingness

The new version of the party program and the CPSU Rules with their appended changes, which were adopted at the congress, target the party committees toward the mobilization of all factors of an acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development.

The scale and complexity of the impending work first and foremost dictate new demands on the personnel, the entire style of party work and its methods and nature. In accordance with the aims of the CPSU Central Committee, it is necessary today that every party organization struggle persistently and purposefully for implementation

of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and truly be the political nucleus of the labor collective, remembering here that there is no vanguard role of the communist in general -- it is expressed in practical deeds.

The gorkoms and raykoms must pay particular attention to the collectives where there is as yet insufficiently clear recognition of the need for rebuilding due, to attunement to a serious, self-critical analysis which is not perceived and where allegiance to the old is reflected and the spirit of the times is not being caught.

The main demand which the party makes under modern conditions on the party committee secretary and the staff officer is ensuring that nowhere, under no circumstances does word part from deed since any discrepancy here causes palpable damage to the authority of our policy and cannot be tolerated in any form. Consistent implementation of the principle of the collective nature of leadership, given personal responsibility for the assigned sector, the development of extensive publicity, criticism and self-criticism and the removal self-glorification, verbiage and excessive report writing are essential prerequisites of an improvement in the situation and the creation of the conditions for the full-blooded life of each party organization.

This is also made binding upon us by the firm conclusion drawn by the congress: there are no and must be no organizations in the party which are beyond supervision and closed to criticism and there are no and must be no leaders protected against party liability. This requirement applies to all leaders, all organizations and establishments and every communist without exception.

The system of the selection, assignment, education, training and improvement of party, soviet, trade union and Komsomol personnel, industrial managers and the aktiv should undoubtedly work more effectively on a decisive reorganization of all spheres of the life of society.

The obkom consistently implements CPSU Central Committee policy aimed at inclusion in the reserve and promotion to executive positions of competent people who have graduated from a good school of life and acquired political conditioning. The principle of the promotion of leaders where account is taken of the opinion and recommendations of the communists and the whole labor collective is becoming increasingly extensively established.

The overwhelming majority of our executive personnel is fully justifying the trust shown in it, boldly tackling difficult economic and sociopolitical questions and not shying away in the face of difficulties and problems which arise.

At the same time, however, here also we sometimes encounter instances of a dilettante approach to the assigned job and an inability to get one's bearings competently and set the collective specific tasks and mobilize it for the achievement of high end results. This applies not only to certain industrial managers but also individual party committee secretaries.

The creation in each collective of an atmosphere of high exactingness and businesslike and constructive criticism should contribute to the removal of such shortcomings. We should particularly emphasize criticism and not carping.

There are still many instances here of certain dishonest persons, skillfully attuning themselves to the general mood, using an open platform for their unseemly selfish ends and endeavoring to discredit those who are working honestly and conscientiously in their entrusted sector. The party committees and bureaus must investigate such situations scrupulously and with all objectiveness and emphatically rebuff those who are blackening the good name of a work comrade or leader.

Proceeding from the congress' directives, it is necessary to pay more attention to the correct demarcation of the spheres of activity of the party, soviet and business authorities. There is still a duplication of questions within the competence of industrial managers and soviets in the machinery of the gorkoms and raykoms and in the obkom, and parallelism in work has not been removed.

In each party organization the communists must create an atmosphere of exactingness precluding any possibility of disregard for the Leninist rules of party life on the part of anyone and reliably protecting the party against incidental people and those who have joined it from careerist and other selfish motives. The obkom considers this to be a high-minded policy and will pursue it persistently.

The impending extensive discussion of the congress' material in the party, trade union, Komsomol organizations and the soviets must be of a constructive and business-like nature and be geared to practical implementation of the party's plans with reference to the actual conditions of each rayon and each labor collective and the unconditional fulfillment of the plan quotas of the current year and the 12th Five-Year Plan as a whole.

Only a short time has elapsed since the conclusion of the 27th CPSU Congress. But it may be said with all certainty today even that the congress formulated a strategic course corresponding to the vital interests of the Soviet people and the highest ideals of socialism and peace. In the Kremlin Palace there was a candid discussion, exacting in the Leninist way, of the state of affairs in our country, a discussion had been impatiently awaited by Soviet people.

All this permits the logical conclusion: the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress will be the firm foundation of the creative labor of millions on realization of the concept of acceleration and will go down in the history of the Lenin Party as the start of a new stage of the development of the land of soviets.

At the same time we must fully recognize that persistent work of the party organizations and all working people is required in order that the process of renewal started by the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum and confirmed as strongly as could be by the party congress lead Soviet society to qualitatively new frontiers of socio-economic progress.

Particular responsibility here is entrusted to our party aktiv. The obkom is sure that in this historically important work the 600,000-strong detachment of Leningrad communists will know how to mobilize all their creative efforts, display Bolshevik firmness and persistence and be, as always, the party Central Committee's reliable support.

We are firmly convinced that the communists and all working people of the city of Lenin and Leningrad Oblast, possessing great traditions and experience, will do everything to ensure that the ideas and decisions of the congress permeate the life of each labor collective and be concretely embodied in Leningraders' actual deeds pertaining to the accomplishment of the crucial tasks of the 12th 5-Year Plan.

KIEV PAPER OUTLINES CONSTRUCTION PROBLEMS AT CHERNOBYL

LD040508 Kiev LITERATURNIA UKRAINA in Ukrainian 27 Mar 86 p 1

[Pripyat resident Lyubov Kovalevska article: "The Decisions of the 27th Congress Being Put Into Action -- It Is No Private Matter"]

[Excerpts] Outlining on the basis of comprehensive substantiation the strategy for its economic policy, the 27th CPSU Congress also worked out specific, real steps for the move to an economy with a higher level of organization and efficiency, comprehensive development of productive forces, mature socialist relations, and a well-organized system of management; it pointed to ways of implementing this strategy, the main one of which is reconstruction of the national economy on the basis of scientific-technical progress.

The nuclear power industry is developing particularly rapidly in the Ukraine: In 1984, the capacity of the Chernobyl AES was already 4 million kw; moreover, bringing the power sets up to design capacity was being carried out ahead of schedule [prychomu vvedennya enerhoblokiiv na proyektynu potuzhnist zdiysnyuvalosya ranishe ustanovlennoho stoku]. All this enabled the Chernobyl AES to rank among the most progressive and powerful nuclear power stations in the USSR and to make a great contribution to the power supply in the entire southwestern area of the country. Apart from this, since September 1980, power from the Chernobyl AES has been supplied to CEMA member-countries. Since the station was commissioned, nearly 150,000 million kwh of electricity have been generated.

Work on increasing capacities at the Chernobyl AES is continuing. Work is under way on construction of the third phase, containing the fifth and sixth power sets, which should be put into operation in 1986 and 1988. With the commissioning of these power sets, the station's capacity will reach 6 million kw and it will become the most powerful in the world.

Over the 15 years of construction at the Chernobyl AES, a builders collective has been formed. It includes highly qualified workers who have been through formal training in building power projects in various parts of the country and gained great experience during the construction of the 4 million-kw power sets. During this work, quite a lot of new and progressive factors have emerged. A strong body of technical engineering workers has been formed. The successes of the builders, assembly workers, technicians, and designers have been rewarded with high-level government awards.

Now, against the background of these achievements, the delay in construction of the fifth power set is particularly noticeable. The plans and specifications for building and assembly work in 1985 have not been fulfilled. Is this slump a coincidence? Of course not, but it is not enough to give such a simple answer either. Let us not assume the task of making a profound analysis of the conditions and consequences of the collective's work, but dwell instead on the main factors, which are characteristic of many construction sites in the country.

The building site should be an uninterrupted production line of work on the basis of the strictest adherence to correct building techniques. This is precisely what is lacking. The problems of the first set were passed onto the second, from the second to the third and so on, but together with this, they expanded, "became overgrown" with a huge number of unsolved problems.

At first these problems were discussed with interest, with firm self-confidence, then they aroused indignation and later, desperation was also added to this: "How long, they said, are we going to go on talking about one and the same thing, and what is the use of all this talking?..."

As for the fifth set...the time allocated for its construction was reduced from 3 years to 2 and building work began in 1985 with minimal supplies. Added to this change in work schedule and also tightening up of plans which were already tight, it turned out [i ushchilnennya vlasnykh i bez toho napruzhennykh planiv] that no one was ready -- not the designers, the suppliers, nor the builders themselves, whose resources are naturally not infinite. But the directing bodies, sometimes even for objective reasons, without increasing the strength of the building organization, hasten to impose an unrealistic program, which is not backed up by resources and this then leads to disorganization of building work and often to the collapse of the plan. The late release of design and costing documentation by the "S. Ya. Zhuk" Gidroproyekt Institute did not allow effective planning of distribution of orders for prefabricated reinforced concrete and metal structures. The main bulk, let us say, of the latter were ordered in the fourth quarter and this led, in turn, to a disruption in supplies. The consequence of this was then lack of rhythm in the work of teams and stoppages. It was a vicious circle. The structures only reached assembly organizations in October-November, but the subdivisions were by then unable to do anything with them. The low quality of the design and costing documentation, which unfortunately is a common phenomenon, caused additional labor costs and called for reworking and great material and moral efforts.

Lack of organization weakened not only discipline, but also the responsibility of each and everyone for the overall result of work. The impossibility, or even unwillingness, of technical engineering workers to organize the teams' work lowered the level of exactingness. "Fatigue" started to be felt, wear and tear of equipment, machinery and mechanisms, lack of tools, instruments, and so on. In a word, all the shortcomings in the building process, which are unfortunately typical, became acute and apparent.

There is yet another problem, a considerably more serious one. Due to the unscrupulousness of the factory-producer, the customer cannot rid himself of defective material and of disruptions in supply. Thus, in 1985, 45,500 cubic meters of prefabricated reinforced concrete were ordered, 3,200 were missing, and out of the 42,300 cubic meters received, 6,000 were faulty. Thus the reinforced concrete is there, but it cannot be assembled.

I do not wish to suggest that the factory-producers do not have problems of their own and complications, nor do I want to pose as a teacher. All the same, I consider it to be an abnormal situation when contract obligations are constantly violated. In the "forefront" here is the "Dneprenergostroyprom" Association, which last year undersupplied by 800 cubic meters of water-cooling tower structures, the "Severenergostroyprom" Association, which failed to supply more than 150 cubic meters of wall panels for the machine hall and the "Lvovenergostroyprom" Association, which did not supply more than 300 cubic meters of concrete slabs and pumping channels.

Equally "helpful" to the builders of the Chernobyl AES last year were the suppliers of metal structures, who undersupplied by 2,358 tons, and what was delivered was largely faulty. This included 326 tons of fissure sealant for the nuclear fuel waste depository, which arrived in a defective state from the Volzhskiy metal works. The same works was partially responsible for defects in the manufacture of girders for the machine hall. The Kashira Metal Works sent nearly 220 tons of faulty columns for its assembly.

The technical inspectorate (the department which monitors quality of supply and work) has accumulated mountains of documents for designating the value of additional labor costs and deducting this from the value of shoddy structures. And spoilage has to be paid for, and paid for over decades.

Citing these facts, I would like to draw attention to the inadmissibility of defects in the construction of nuclear power stations and power projects in general, where the strength of every structure must conform to a certain standard. Every cubic meter of reinforced concrete must be a guarantee of reliability, and thus of safety. The main factor governing everyone involved in the construction of power projects must be, above all, his conscience. I am convinced that any person with a conscience finds defects unacceptable, because this is degrading to him.

It is offensive and insulting to the worker to have to correct mistakes made by others, because this shows, above all, a lack of respect for him. An absurd situation arises: The structure has arrived, but it is of no use for assembly, and there will be no other. Just how much self-control, sharp wittedness, strength, and nervous energy is required from the builder to finally put a structure like this in order?

Among the shoddy producers one frequently encounters the Pridneprovskiy Works of the "Soyuzatomenergostroyprom" Association which is the main supplier of farraginous ferro-concrete for the Chernobyl AES. As to contractual discipline, it does not stand up to any criticism. Out of the ordered 11,500 cubic meters last year only 10,300 cubic meters were received, nearly 1,000 cubic meters of which were parts of the frame of the main premises. However, no changes for the better have occurred in the current year: During the January-February period the shortfall amounted to 500 cubic meters. The "Soyuzatomenergostroyprom" Association has not only failed to make good last year's shortfall amounting to 3,200 cubic meters, but during the 2 months this year added to it another 2,000 cubic meters out of the 12,300 cubic meters supplied, 5,000 cubic meters arrived in a dismantled state.

A similar situation prevails where metal structures are concerned: The shortfall amounts to 2,436 tons. If we are to look for the concrete culprits, then we have to name the Kiev Works of Experimental Structures (744 tons), the already familiar Volzhskiy Works (698 tons), the Kurakhovskiy Works (477 tons) and the Donetsk Works (182 tons).

The building of the social-cultural sector is being slowed down by the Novovoronezhskiy Works: Out of the 530 cubic meters of farraginous ferro-concrete ordered it underdelivered 380 tons, over a half!